

THE ANTHROOBSERVER

University of Iowa Department of Anthropology Newsletter 2011/2012



James Enloe, DEO,
Department of Anthropology

IN THIS ISSUE:

New Faculty Hire.....	4
Focus on Fieldwork.....	5
Focus on Teaching.....	7
Focus on Writing.....	10
Focus on Graduate Studies.....	12
Focus on Careers.....	13
Faculty Updates.....	15
Graduate Student Updates.....	25
Undergraduate Studies Updates.....	36
Degree Conferrals.....	37

NEWS FROM THE CHAIR

Contributed by James Enloe, DEO

It has been a busy and eventful year for students and faculty in the department of Anthropology. There have been a lot of accomplishments and honors among our community. Most notably, Erica Prussing was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure. Bob Franciscus has all but the final Regents' approval for his promotion to Full Professor next year.

Among the faculty, we have had a number of new faces in Anthropology this year, with more to come. Frank Salomon, recently retired from Anthropology at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, has joined us as Adjunct Professor. Levi McLaughlin, a Post-doctoral Scholar at the Center for Asian and Pacific Studies, was appointed adjunct assistant professor for one year in Anthropology. We will be welcoming Elana Buch as our new medical anthropologist, as she finishes her final year as a post-doc at UCLA and will be joining us on campus in the fall. We also had a successful hire of Drew Kitchen as our new anthropological geneticist, coming from a post-doc at Penn State; he will also be joining us in the fall.

A total of 59 undergraduate degrees in Anthropology were or will be awarded this year, of which 53 are BA degrees and 6 are BS degrees; 4 of those degrees were awarded with honors, while 5 were awarded honors last academic year. We are particularly proud of the accomplishments and recognition of our undergraduate students. Emily Adair, Shannon Burnett, Megan Dee, Elijah Fleming, Jerod Haldin, Elliot Higgins, Cole Konopka and Krystal Wisstrom distinguished themselves with appointment to Phi Beta Kappa. Elliot Higgins was awarded the very prestigious Hancher Finkbine Medallion by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Graduate students have been very active and productive this year. It has been an exceptionally good year for internal and external grants. Brandi Janssen, Cerisa Reynolds and Jonathan Thomas were supported this year by very competitive Wenner-Gren grants. Ted Marks was awarded a Sigma Xi Grant-in-Aid of Research for his archaeological project in Namibia. Alissa Whitmore and Cristina Ortiz were awarded Ballard-

NEWS FROM THE CHAIR

Seashore Fellowships for next year. Christina Nicholas, Tony Pomales, and Jill Scott received T. Anne Cleary International Dissertation Research Fellowships for 2012-2013. Noah Johnson was awarded a Stanley Graduate Award for International Research. Sarah Trabert was selected by the Council on Teaching to receive an Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award for 2011-2012.

Ligia Fragoso and Rachel Tanquist were awarded MA degrees in Spring 2012. This has been a significant year for producing new PhDs. Jerry Wever defended his dissertation in Summer 2011, and holds an appointment as Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Spelman College in Atlanta. Scott Maddux defended his dissertation in Summer 2011, and began an appointment in the Department of Pathology and Anatomical Sciences at the University of Missouri in Columbia. Rachel Horner Brackett defended in Fall 2011, and is teaching at Augustana College in Rock Island. Kenda Stewart defended in Fall 2011, and is working at the VA Medical Center in Iowa City, where a number of our recent graduates are. Anna Waterman defended her dissertation in Spring 2012 and will begin a tenure-track appointment in Biology at Mount Mercy College in Cedar Rapids. Cerisa Reynolds defended her dissertation in Spring 2012 and will begin a tenure-track appointment in Anthropology at Aims Community College in Greeley, Colorado. Other recent graduates have made progress in the professional field. Josh Polanski began a three year appointment with the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. Dan Proctor will begin a tenure-track appointment in Anthropology at Buffalo State College in Buffalo, New York. Lavanya Proctor has been appointed a Lecturer at the same institution. Alumnus Grant McCall was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure in the Anthropology department at Tulane University. Alumna Brittine French, Associate Professor in the Anthropology department at Grinnell, was awarded a Wenner-Gren senior research grant.

The faculty was also quite productive this year, particularly in major publications and in successful research grant proposals. There were, of course, substantial numbers of publications in peer reviewed scholarly journals and chapters in edited volumes. Our faculty, as well as undergraduate and graduate students, was very active in presenting in local, regional, national and international conferences and congresses. We had quite a number of books published this year, including those by Mike Chibnik – *Anthropology, Economics and Choice*, University of Texas Press; Russ Ciochon - the 13th edition of *Introduction to Physical Anthropology*, Cengage-Wadsworth and Chinese edition of *Dragon Bone Hill: the Ice Age Saga of Homo erectus*, Shanghai Technical Publishing; Katina Lillios - editor, *Comparative Archaeologies: The American Southwest (AD 900-1600) and the Iberian Peninsula (3000-1500 BC)*, Oxbow Books; Erica Prussing – *White Man's Water: The Politics of Sobriety in a Native American Community*, University of Arizona Press; Sonia Ryang – *Reading North Korea: An Ethnological Exploration*, Harvard University Press; and Glenn Storey – editor, *A Fundamental Greek Course: Answer Key*, University Press of America.

Katina Lillios was awarded a major National Science Foundation senior research grant for a three year project in Portugal. Erica Prussing has been awarded a Wenner-Gren grant to conduct new research during her upcoming Career Development Leave (spring 2013). Scott Schnell was awarded a Japan Foundation Research Fellowship to conduct research during his upcoming Career Development Leave in 2012-2013. Sonia Ryang got an extension and additional funding for her Japan Foundation research grant. Russ Ciochon was awarded a National Geographic Society grant for research on Sumatra. Jim Enloe recently was awarded a Social Science Funding Program (SSFP) award for archaeological excavations in Namibia this summer.

Our faculty has received considerable recognition at the national and international scale. Mike Chibnik was

NEWS FROM THE CHAIR

named editor-in-chief for the *American Anthropologist*, the flagship journal of the largest anthropological association in the world. Emily Wentzell received an Honorable Mention from the Society for Medical Anthropology for her dissertation. Ellen Lewin was awarded the Prize for Distinguished Achievement in the Critical Study of North America by the Society for the Anthropology of North America. Laurie Graham's film, *Owners of the Water: Conflict & Collaboration over Rivers*, won an Honorable Mention Award for Advocacy and was chosen as an Official Selection for Screening at the Montana CINE International Film Festival.

We have also made considerable progress in updating our teaching and research infrastructure. A new Quantitative Anthropology Laboratory in 218 Macbride Hall was inaugurated, funded by one Instructional Improvement grant to Margaret Beck and Matt Hill and another to Erica Prussing and Emily Wentzell, and a Student Technology Funds grant to Katina Lillios and Matt Hill. This includes nine work stations with new computers, double screens, and software for Geographic Information Systems, Ground Penetrating Radar, and quantitative ethnographic programs. Renovation of the archaeological laboratory in 16 Macbride Hall is almost finished and ready for occupancy by Matt Hill.

Anthropologists in our department also play significant roles in programs in the University. Erica Prussing is the coordinator of the American Indian and Native Studies Program. Russ Ciochon is the coordinator of the Museum Studies Program, which although it includes far ranging interests and input from faculty, staff and students across the university is under the administration of the Anthropology Department. Adjunct faculty who teach in that program have appointments in Anthropology, including Tiffany Adrain, Shalla Ashworth, Dale Fisher, David McCartney and Will Thompson. Adjunct faculty at the Office of the State Archaeologist who teach courses and serve on undergraduate and graduate student committees include Joe Artz, John Doershuk, Steve Lensink, Melody Pope, Shirley Shermer and Bill Whittaker. Additional adjunct faculty elsewhere on campus include Nathan Holton, Kevin Kelly, Jonathan Larson and Dongwang Liu.

We would like to thank our alumni and friends who have supported us, and we would especially like to remember June Helm, our founding doyenne, whose generosity continues to support student scholarships and awards in our department. We are looking forward to another year of growth and success for all of our community in Anthropology and at the University of Iowa.



June Helm
1924-2004

Founder,
University of Iowa
Department of
Anthropology

Photo: UI College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

FOCUS ON NEW FACULTY

DREW KITCHEN

The Department of Anthropology recently completed a search for a genetic anthropologist. The department is pleased to announce that Drew Kitchen has accepted the offer of a full-time, tenure-track appointment as Assistant Professor. He will be joining the department faculty for the Fall 2012 semester.

Dr. Kitchen received his Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of Florida in 2008, and is currently a postdoctoral scholar in the Center for Infectious Disease Dynamics and the Department of Biology at The Pennsylvania State University.

Dr. Kitchen is a biological anthropologist investigating human demographic and evolutionary history from genetic data. He is particularly interested in the evolution of modern humans, especially the peopling of the New World and the evolution and origins of human pathogens and parasites. Notably, this includes parasites as markers of human behavior and migration as well as the emergence of novel pathogens in response to changes in human ecology. His diverse research interests have touched on the genetic evidence for the ancient peopling of the Americas, the origin of human body lice and the advent of clothing, and the rapid evolutionary dynamics of important human pathogens, such as the viral agent of smallpox (*Variola virus*). Dr. Kitchen will continue to pursue his broad research agenda at the University of Iowa, where he will continue to study the evolution of human populations, language, and infectious disease. These new and ongoing projects will, for example, shed light on the origins of agriculture and demographic change in the American Southwest, provide insight into the diversification of the Afroasiatic languages, and identify the time at which *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (the causative agent of tuberculosis) emerged as a global human pathogen.



Dr. Drew Kitchen

Dr. Kitchen writes:

“I am excited to join the distinguished faculty in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Iowa. For me, it is a distinct pleasure to join such an established department that shares my four-field approach to studying the human condition. I am particularly grateful for the warm welcome that the department has extended to me, and am immensely enthused to begin working with my new colleagues to continue the tradition of excellent scholarship and service within the department.”



FOCUS ON FIELDWORK



Photos by Misha Quill

Above: Clinic at refugee camp, Teknaf, Bangladesh.

Below: School children at refugee camp, Teknaf, Bangladesh.



OBSERVATIONS FROM BANGLADESH (OR “STUFF THAT I OBSERVE AND THINK ABOUT BUT WHICH IS UNLIKELY TO BE A PART OF THE DISS”)

Contributed by Misha Quill

I am no ethnomusicologist. Although I worked for years at a radio station that produces some of the best classical music programming in the US, I have very little conscious sense of how aesthetics, form, structure or tone shape musical choices. But I am very aware that in Bangladesh, people have a different relationship to sound than in the mostly middle class U.S. communities I call home.

I don’t think I’ve been anywhere in Bangladesh that I could say was truly quiet. First off, there are the obvious sounds: the calls to prayer that happen five times per day. (And in the cities, different mosques can be heard at the same time broadcasting the call to prayer in an overlapping cacophony of sound.) Each mosque has a loudspeaker, from which these calls are broadcast, and in many cases, the sound quality is so poor, all I can hear is distortion and feedback. In the town where I live, the mosque (or perhaps another building close by) will also allow the loudspeaker to be used for other kinds of broadcasts. Sometimes this means loud music blaring at 3 am, other times it is announcements about politics, trade or religious obligations.

The poor sound quality is not restricted to mosques. Around the country, enterprising sales people and religious leaders have strapped huge speakers to the tops of cycle rickshaws and CNGs (the local name for auto rickshaws or tuk-tuks). Like the infamously unintelligible announcements broadcast in NYC subways, these speakers seem to be trying to compensate for lack of clarity with maximum volume. Of course they have to – in order to be heard over the rest of the din.

All vehicles, from cycle rickshaws to personal cars to busses and trucks beep their horns almost constantly. In effect they seem to be using the horn to create a kind of moving audio presence – warning other drivers, pedestrians, children, goats, cows, dogs and water buffalo that they are coming through. In traffic, drivers, especially drivers of private vehicles, beep their horns aggressively. Get out of my way, they seem to say. I am more important than you.

FOCUS ON FIELDWORK

Other competing noises include vendors calling out their wares, beggars crying for bohkshish, the hum of generators and the ever-present ring of cell phones. In the guesthouse where I stay, these are complemented by loud ceiling fans, an incredibly chatty murder of Bangladeshi crows and a neighbor who likes to blast some very bad (to my ear) Burmese karaoke.

Although I don't always mind the sounds, after a while, I long for peace and quiet. Twice in the last month I thought I had found some on the long drive to Cox's Bazar (the nearest sizable town, 2-1/2 hours away). On both trips I was foiled by Bangladeshi colleagues who pulled out their cell phones to share favorite tunes blasting from those tinny little speakers.

I've been in Bangladesh now for about 6 months, so I wasn't really surprised that my colleagues wanted to share their cell phone music (and fill the audio void!). What did startle me was that both of them played John Denver. I'm positive it was the same greatest hits album my dad had on 8-track in the 1970s.

Two is not a very big sample size, but it led me to contemplate what if anything I could learn from their musical choice (and others like it).

When I started to think about the 'homegrown' music that Bangladeshi friends have shared with me, I realized that much of it is Baul music, a religious folk tradition dominated by the 10,000 songs reportedly written by Lalou Baul, in the middle part of the 19th century. Deshis (as Bangladeshis sometimes refer to themselves) also love the music of two poets: Rabindronath Tagore (1861-1941) and Kazi Nazrul Islam (1899-1976).

What do John Denver, Lalou, Robindro and Nazrul songs have in common? None were written in the last 40 years. All are romantic (sentimental perhaps) and express a sometime spiritual appreciation of the natural world and rural life. Many tell a story...and they're good songs for amateur singers to sing. Given how long they've been around, everyone knows the words.

With these data as a start, I'd like to think more about nostalgia (embrace or rejection of the contemporary), the role of singing in Bengali social life and the way that culture shapes our aesthetic sensibilities and sensory tolerances.

But for now, I am going to put my earplugs back in and finish writing my fieldnotes.



Map by UNHCR

Above: Map showing location of Misha's fieldsite: Teknaf, Bangladesh.

Misha writes: "A number of INGOs work alongside local organizations and UN agencies to assist Rohingya refugees, most of whom fled Myanmar in the 1990s."

Below: Misha and friends at NGO in Dhaka.



Photo courtesy of Misha Quill

FOCUS ON TEACHING



Photo by Liz Newbury

Above: Students work in the new Quantitative Anthropology Laboratory in 218 Macbride Hall. The lab features nine work stations with new computers, double screens, and software for Geographic Information Systems, Ground Penetrating Radar, and quantitative ethnographic programs.

The new lab was funded by one Instructional Improvement grant to Professors Margaret Beck and Matt Hill and another to Professors Erica Prussing and Emily Wentzell, and a Student Technology Funds grant to Professors Katina Lillios and Matt Hill.

NEW COURSE OFFERINGS

Two new courses will be offered in the 2012-2013 academic year. These are: Language and Power, and Infectious Diseases. Course numbers are yet to be determined.

THE UI DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY 2011-2012 COLLOQUIUM SERIES

Maximilian Viatori (Iowa State University): “Locating Dissent: Ecuadorian Nationalist Discourse during the 2008 Border Row with Columbia”
September 2, 2011

Frank Salomon (University of Iowa): “The Andes’ Lost Script, and Anthropology’s Lost Knack for Reading Things”
September 30, 2011

Kenneth George (University of Wisconsin-Madison): “The Making and Unmaking of Islamic Art: The View from Southeast Asia”
October 12, 2011

María Alejandra Pérez (University of Michigan): “Coming Together at the Map: Exploration and Representation in Venezuela’s Cave Landscape”
October 28, 2011

Brigitte French (Grinnell College): “See, Hear, and Report No Evil: Anthropology and Violence in the Irish Free State”
November 11, 2011

Pamila Gupta (New School for Social Research): “Some (Not so) Lost Aquatic Traditions: Goans Going Fishing in the Indian Ocean”
November 11, 2011

Cristina Gish Hill (Iowa State University): “From Captivity to Diplomacy: Cheyenne Women as Ambassadors on the Northern Plains”
April 6, 2012

FOCUS ON TEACHING

DR. VIRGINIA DOMINGUEZ PRESENTS SEMINAR ON RECENT "SCIENCE CONTROVERSY" IN AAA

Contributed by Liz Newbury

We were pleased to welcome Dr. Virginia Dominguez back to the UI campus on March 8, 2012 for a seminar titled "Discursive Eruptions and the Behind-the-Scenes: When and Why "Science" Is a Lightning Rod for Anthropologists." Approximately forty students and faculty members from disciplines including social sciences, humanities, and health sciences attended the seminar which was co-sponsored by Project on Rhetoric of Inquiry and the Department of Anthropology.

Dr. Dominguez, POROI Executive Director Dr. David DePew, and Dr. Mike Chibnik and Dr. Laurie Graham of the Anthropology Department led a spirited conversation about the recent "eruption" engendered by a 2010 long-range planning document for the American Anthropological Association (AAA) which proposed changes in the mission statement--changes that would have excised the word "science" from the statement. Dr. Dominguez served as the AAA President from 2009-2011.

In addition to prompting debate within the discipline, the controversy also received attention in national media outlets including *The New York Times*, *Psychology Today*, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, and numerous blogs. Going beyond the dichotomous viewpoints of the humanities versus science represented in media coverage, Dr. Dominguez stated unequivocally that the debate is *not* about a biological versus cultural division and called for attention to broader issues within the discipline and externally that contributed to the situation. She reminded the group that such debates about anthropology's place as a discipline vis-à-vis other disciplines periodically crops up. Perhaps the more interesting question about this incident is "why now?"

As a starting point in considering the plurality of concerns in the debate, she characterized anthropology as being heavily evidence-based, committed to research, and taking all of humanity as potential topics or problems for study. Based on this definition, she elaborated an informal taxonomy of positions: those who accept that definition; those who accept the definition and view anthropology as tantamount to science; those who find the characterization acceptable but aren't committed to presenting anthropology as science; those who advocate for anthropology as science; and those who disagree with the characterization and see anthropology as a form of public advocacy. The latter two groups, she noted, were the loudest voices in the exchange.

Dr. Dominguez' perceptions were that, to some extent, the vociferousness of responses to the proposed changes may have had less to do with science and more to do with professional hierarchies and perceptions of marginalization. She registered her surprise that in some of the "behind the scenes" communications Geertz was cited repeatedly as a turning point towards interpretivism and away from scientific methodologies, and also about the degree to which attention to gender issues and feminism was cast as overly politicized and non-scientific.

Dr. Graham commented on polemic aspects of the debate, noting that we *all* do interpretation of our data, but

FOCUS ON TEACHING

that this controversy was polemicized as data-driven work versus purely interpretive work. The group also discussed the role of internet and blog communications in this episode, with some discussants suggesting that those media were not necessarily put to positive use and others suggesting that those media may help amplify marginalized voices. As at all good anthropological gatherings, more questions were generated than settled. In sum, the discussion of the controversy posed questions not only about what constitutes science, but also about why it is perceived as so heavily valued.

DR. RICHARD HANDLER PRESENTS WORKSHOP ON INTERDISCIPLINARY TEACHING

Contributed by Liz Newbury

Dr. Richard Handler, Director of the Program in Global Development Studies and Professor of Anthropology at the University of Virginia, facilitated a lively workshop on “The Art of Interdisciplinarity” on March 5, 2012 at UI’s Obermann Center for Advanced Studies. The workshop was attended by about two dozen faculty members and graduate students from Anthropology; Center for Teaching; Communication Studies; Engineering; English; Gender, Women’s, and Sexuality Studies; History; Rhetoric; and Theater.

Dr. Handler discussed both challenges and rewards of interdisciplinary teaching. On the challenge side of the balance sheet, he pointed out that universities’ administrative and funding structures can make it difficult for interdisciplinary programs to function as their own “centers of gravity” for tenure purposes, and argued that programs need to “own their own faculty lines.” He also contrasted the expectations of undergraduates and their parents and those of faculty, noting that undergraduates tend to “work from a desire to go forth and problem-solve” and to view disciplinary knowledge as simply “a collection of tools and skills.” On the rewards side of the balance sheet, Dr. Handler told the group that he thinks a real value of his interdisciplinary teaching comes in fostering a higher order synthesis of the social sciences and encouraging his students to “fundamentally question their assumptions about *why* they believe that the type of problem-solving they want to do is the way it *should* be done.”

Department of Anthropology, Obermann Center for Advanced Studies, International Programs, Center for Teaching, Department of History, Department of English, Museum Studies, Division of World Languages, Literatures and Cultures, and the Office of the State Archaeologist co-sponsored Dr. Handler’s visit.

TRABERT RECOGNIZED AS OUTSTANDING TA

Sarah Trabert was one of thirty graduate students recognized by the UI Council on Teaching as a 2011-2012 Outstanding Teaching Assistant. This award recognizes teaching assistants who have demonstrated outstanding ability as teachers at the University of Iowa. During the 2011-2012 year, Sarah served as a TA for Introduction to Prehistory with Professor Margaret Beck and for Native Peoples of North America with Professor Erica Prussing.

FOCUS ON WRITING



Professor Michael Chibnik (above) has been named editor-in-chief of the *American Anthropologist*, the flagship journal of the American Anthropological Association. His four year term will begin July 1, 2012.

“The AA, founded in 1883, is one of the most influential, prestigious, and historically important anthropology journals in the world. The journal, which comes out four times each year, publishes about 750 pages annually.”

PROFESSOR MICHAEL CHIBNIK ASSUMES AMERICAN ANTHROPOLOGIST EDITORSHIP

Contributed by Michael Chibnik

The *American Anthropologist* (AA), the flagship journal of the American Anthropological Association, will soon be based in our department. I was named as incoming editor-in-chief of the AA last November. My term starts this summer and runs for the next four years. The journal will have an office in Macbride, staffed by a graduate student editorial assistant with a half-time year-long RA appointment. My editorial assistant for the first year will be Brandi Janssen, who begins work on June 1.

The AA, founded in 1883, is one of the most influential, prestigious, and historically important anthropology journals in the world. The journal, which comes out four times each year, publishes about 750 pages annually. I am in charge of coordinating the activities of my editorial assistant, a full-time managing editor in California, two book review editors, a public anthropology team, two visual anthropology editors, a translator of abstracts into Spanish, and an editorial board of more than 50 members. Because the journal each year receives several hundred manuscripts submitted for possible publication, we must be quite selective in which ones are accepted. Each manuscript is read by at least three reviewers and all authors receive extensive feedback on their submissions. Although we aim to keep the turnaround time as short as possible, even those that are ultimately accepted ordinarily require some revision prior to publication.

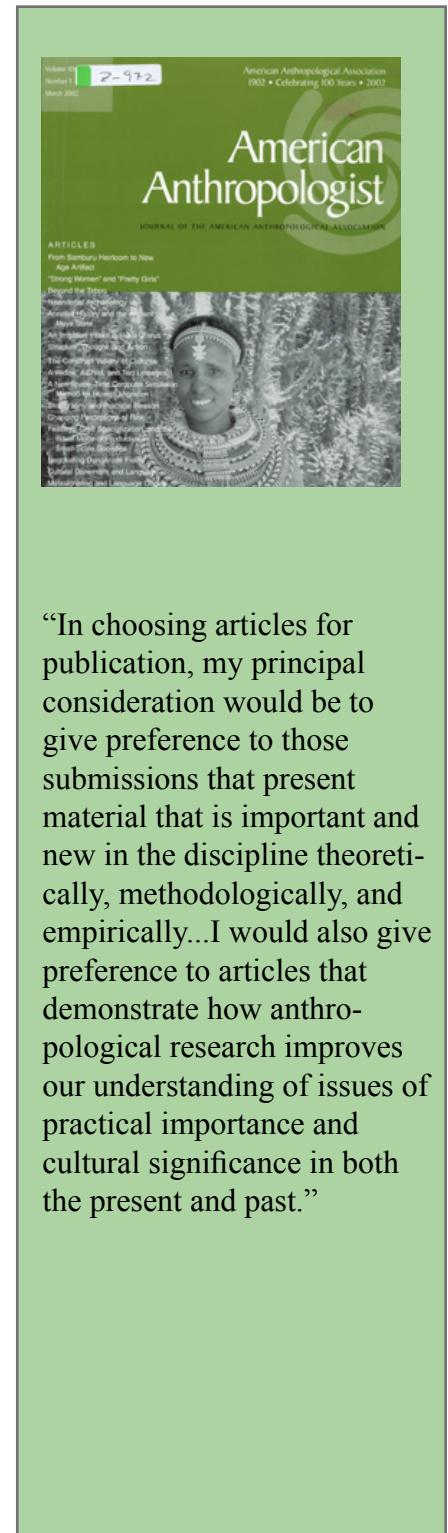
When I applied for the editorial position, I was asked to provide a “vision statement.” An excerpt from that statement indicates how I am thinking about my role:

“In choosing articles for publication, my principal consideration would be to give preference to those submissions that present material that is important and new in the discipline theoretically, methodologically, and empirically. All other things being equal, I would also give preference to articles that demonstrate how anthropological research improves our understanding of issues of practical importance and cultural significance in both the present and past. To the extent possible, the main ideas of articles should

FOCUS ON WRITING

be comprehensible to nonspecialists. As editor, I would encourage clear writing and straightforward organization and would discourage the overuse of jargon intelligible to only to those with particular theoretical perspectives. I would emphasize the importance of lucid, logical, evidence-based arguments, and discourage polemical statements in the absence of empirical content.”

The movement of the AA office to our department gives all of us a wonderful opportunity to learn about major developments in our field. I plan to offer graduate students (possibly via independent studies) ways to be involved in journal. Although I look forward greatly to taking on this work, the position is a challenging one and the activities of past editors-in-chief have sometimes been controversial. Perhaps the most important issue right now has little to do with the content of the AA. All scholarly publications, especially journals, must adapt to an increasingly digital age in which most readers get information electronically. This has led to many people advocating “open access,” in which the content of scholarly journals are freely available to any reader. Right now, there are many people around the world who cannot afford subscriptions to the AA and are unable to read recent issues online. However, there are serious financial and logistical obstacles to providing the open access to the journal that many would consider desirable. Although I did not think about open access much when applying for the position, I can see that working on various committees considering this problem will occupy considerable amounts of my time over the next several years.



“In choosing articles for publication, my principal consideration would be to give preference to those submissions that present material that is important and new in the discipline theoretically, methodologically, and empirically...I would also give preference to articles that demonstrate how anthropological research improves our understanding of issues of practical importance and cultural significance in both the present and past.”

FOCUS ON GRADUATE STUDIES

A YEAR IN TRANSITION

Contributed by Brandi Muller

Editor's note: Brandi Muller graduated from University of Iowa with a BA in Anthropology in May 2011 and entered the PhD program in Anthropology in August 2011. We asked her to share her reflections on making the transition from undergraduate to graduate study within the same department. -LN & MK

I believe that anthropology is a discipline that can be and is both studied and lived. Transitioning from the undergraduate to graduate program in our department was, in my opinion, my first real opportunity among a long stretch of those to come for me to engage – conceptually and practically – with this field. My experience began with observations more superficial in nature. Not having to relocate to a different town as I had been prepared to do helped the new school year to begin without incident, and the increased intensity of a graduate workload took adjustment of time management (and will continue to do so, I'm sure) but was nothing I hadn't been prepared for having been friends with graduate students long before I became one myself. But I can't say that these points are what strike me as most significant about my transition.

My admission to the graduate program allowed me to bridge with continuity the gap between the foundation I had built for myself as an undergraduate and the edifice upon it which has yet to be completed. This continuity – interwoven in time with changing perspectives of myself, my world, and the study of humanness – has given me new and powerful opportunities to conceive of existing structures in new, and newly fluid, lights. As I see it, this is a perfect manifestation of how I define anthropology, and it is experienced both subjectively and objectively; the opportunity for me to continue into graduate education here is anthropology, and I am living it.

One of the most rewarding aspects of this year – which I feel wouldn't have been possible without remaining at the same institution – has been the way my perspectives of people within the department have changed. These peers, mentors, instructors, and friends were at one time a group of people I admired and respected from a spatial and social distance – authority figures at the front of my undergraduate classrooms and managers of the hidden inner-workings of the labyrinthine Macbride. But now, to these names and faces I have begun placing vibrant and multi-dimensional worldviews, personal theories, accomplishments, and – most wonderfully – a more complete understanding of humanity. Had I not been able to make this comparison among the same population in the same setting, I would have missed out on an uncommon yet important actualization of the very discipline to which we have dedicated our lives.



FOCUS ON CAREERS

TEACHING MOMENTS, LEARNING MOMENTS

Contributed by Tomomi Naka

About the author:

Professor Tomomi Naka received her PhD from the University of Iowa Department of Anthropology in 2009. She has been teaching at Asian University for Women in Chittagong, Bangladesh, since July 2010.

Below: Professor Naka's Anthropology of Religion class at Asian University for Women, Chittagong, Bangladesh. She points out that a variety of clothing styles can be seen in this photo.

Photo courtesy of Tomomi Naka



Hello. It is good to reconnect with the Department of Anthropology at University of Iowa. While it has been three years since I graduated, and almost two years since I moved to Bangladesh, I still feel close connection to Iowa City and the department and I often miss my days in the graduate school.

Being a graduate student and working as a teaching assistant or instructor were certainly not easy. Students at the University of Iowa and other institutions where I worked are from socially, economically, and intellectually diverse backgrounds. I found myself frustrated and discouraged. However, I have been grateful for those experiences—at least, I feel I can consider some of the challenges that I am facing as an extension of my previous teaching experiences.

Since July 2010, I have been teaching at Asian University for Women, an English medium, liberal arts university, located in Chittagong, Bangladesh. The university is fairly new, and it will have the first graduate class in May 2013. Students come from many countries in South and South East Asia, including Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Myanmar, Vietnam, China and several other countries. Teachers also come from many countries, including India, USA, Australia, Nepal, Canada, UK, Spain, China, Japan and so on. Local transportation, such as CNG and rickshaw, hot and humid weather, different clothing styles, and unstable supply of electricity everyday remind us where we are situated, but in another sense, the university is a somewhat different cosmopolitan universe. Classes are taught in English, curriculum is largely American based, and punctuality is highly valued, for example.

Transition to this new school environment has not been easy for me. I had not been to Bangladesh (or any South Asian country) before 2010. Students' names are different, and they are from diverse cultural and social backgrounds. These differences provide me good teaching and learning moments as well as some challenges. For instance, I often teach anthropology of religion and

FOCUS ON CAREERS

other religion courses. Heated discussions periodically happen about the role of religion(s) in relation to gender, nation state, politics, and history.

One relatively less contentious example: I was using a textbook *Religions in Practice* by John J. Bowen. Bowen, a scholar on Muslims in many communities, incorporates examples from diverse religious practices around the world. I thought that this textbook is a good one for students to become familiar with basic concepts and ideas relevant to the study of religion from an anthropological perspective. In class, however, students raised questions that forced me to consider this textbook from different angles. Some students asked why Bowen spent so much time on Muslim practices but not Christianity. In this textbook, Bowen's targeted audience was students in the U.S. and he often assumes basic knowledge of Christianity (which many students here do not have). His descriptions of Muslim communities are problematic for some students because they do not match the way they were taught before. These student comments were helpful for me, making me think about how I can convert moments like this into teaching opportunities.

These challenges are many, and I often struggle with those moments. However, I have come to realize that just like I learned through my previous teaching experiences at different institutions, what I need perhaps is to take this as a good learning opportunity for students and myself.



Photo courtesy of Tomomi Naka

Above: Professor Naka's Economies and Cultures class of approximately fifty students, most of whom are first-year.

Left: An aerial view of the campus and surrounding area.

(Photo credit: www.edunews.bd24x7.com)

Below: Map of Bangladesh showing location of Chittagong.



UPDATE FACULTY

FULLTIME FACULTY

MARGARET BECK

Margaret Beck had two papers published this year, both at the *Journal of Archaeological Science*: “Testing the Provenance of Patayan Pottery at Las Colinas: Chemical and Petrographic Analyses of Phyllite-Temper Fragments” (Abbott, Kelly, Lack, and Beck 2012) and “Geomorphological Setting of Buff-firing Pottery Clays in the Lower Gila Valley, Southwestern Arizona” (Beck, Onken, Eiselt, Darling, and Ferguson 2012). Her Summer 2011 activities included teaching the UI Archaeological Field School at Hickory Hill Park in Iowa City with Bill Whittaker (UI Office of the State Archaeologist) and work with the Picuris Pueblo ceramic collections at Southern Methodist University’s research station in Taos, New Mexico. She finished her term as the Secretary of the Plains Anthropological Society and as a member of its Board of Directors at the annual conference this past fall. She appeared as a guest on Iowa Public Radio’s Talk of Iowa in November shortly after her lecture in the University of Iowa Museum of Natural History’s Explorers Seminar Series (“The Rotten Truth about Human Behavior: Society through the Lens of Garbage”). Margaret also has several papers in review as part of her work with UCLA’s Center on Everyday Lives of Families, and is collaborating with archaeologists from the University of Kansas and the Nebraska State Historical Society on a new project about Kansas City Hopewell.

MICHAEL CHIBNIK

This has been an eventful year for Michael Chibnik. His book *Anthropology, Economics, and Choice*, was published in November by the University of Texas Press. That same month he was selected as the incoming editor-in-chief of the *American Anthropologist* (AA), the flagship journal of the American Anthropological Association. Starting in July, the journal’s office will be based in our department. (See separate article elsewhere in the newsletter for details). Mike will continue to serve as editor of the *Anthropology of Work Review* until he begins his term at the AA. His term as chair of the Labor Relations Committee (LRC) of the American Anthropological Association ended after the annual meetings in November. This highly politicized (and sometimes not especially enjoyable) position involves ongoing, difficult negotiations about labor conditions at the sites of annual meetings. As part of his work for the LRC, Mike organized a roundtable at the meeting to discuss the work conditions and organizing efforts among non-tenure-track faculty in the United States, Canada, and Europe.

Mike continues to keep up with wood carvers from the state of Oaxaca in Mexico, where he has been doing research since the mid-1990s. In July he gave a presentation in Oaxaca about the artisans to a group of graduate students enrolled in a program on Mexican history; in October he gave a talk in Illinois that accompanied a demonstration by a Oaxacan wood carver. Mike returned to Oaxaca in February, where he helped an association of wood carvers set up a site on Etsy (a large internet site for handmade crafts) where they can sell their pieces. Mike now has a half-time appointment that requires teaching only in fall semesters. He is continuing, however, to work year-round with his five doctoral advisees studying topics related to economics, ecology, and politics in the United States and Latin America.

UPDATE FACULTY



Professor Margaret Beck presented a lecture, “The Rotten Truth about Human Behavior: Society through the Lens of Garbage,” to the University of Iowa Museum of Natural History’s Explorers Seminar Series in November, 2011. She also appeared as a guest on Iowa Public Radio’s Talk of Iowa.

RUSSELL L. CIOCHON

Russ continues his academic research on Southeast Asian *Homo erectus* and *Gigantopithecus* and is settling back in to his teaching and advising duties. He also currently serves as Director of CLAS’ Museum Studies Certificate Program and advisor to all registered undergraduate participants. He has deftly balanced these responsibilities while finding time for a research trip in October to the Natural History Museum in Leiden, The Netherlands, to study the original Eugene Dubois *Homo erectus* discoveries and particularly to CT scan the Trinil 2 femur (thigh bone). Also in October, his co-authored paper describing a new maxilla of *Homo erectus* from Sangiran, Java came out in the *Journal of Human Evolution*. In late November, Russ was an invited participant to the World Conference on Paleontology and Stratigraphy in Nakhon Ratchasima, Thailand. He has also just recently returned from an invited lecture at University of California, San Diego in April.

In addition to his more recent museum research, Russ has three peer-reviewed journal articles, relating to recent work in Sumatra (in *Berita Sedimentologii*, *Ichnos* and *Journal of Asian Earth Sciences*). At the close of the spring semester, he will return to Sumatra with colleague Gregg Gunnell (Director of Fossil Primates, Duke Lemur Center) on yet another National Geographic Society grant, this one to find the first record of fossil primates in Sumatra. He will also oversee the publication of four titles in his “Cambridge Studies in Morphology and Molecules: New Paradigms in Evolutionary Biology” editorship series by Cambridge University Press, and continues on the Board of Directors for Integrative Centers for Science and Medicine, and the Board of Trustees for College of Henricopolis. Additionally, the Chinese Language Edition of his co-authored book, *Dragon Bone Hill: An Ice Age Saga of Homo erectus*, was published by the Shanghai Lexicographical Publishing House, China in September, 2011.

JAMES ENLOE

Jim Enloe is in the middle of his term as Chair of the Department of Anthropology, which has taken substantial amounts of his time and effort. He has nonetheless continued his research on Paleolithic sites in France. In 2011, Jim continued analyses of data from 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

UPDATE FACULTY

published “Middle Paleolithic Spatial Analysis in Caves: Discerning humans from hyenas at Arcy-sur-Cure, France” in the *International Journal of Osteoarchaeology*. It has been an active year for public and professional presentations, including an invitation to the International Congress on Hominid-Carnivore interactions during the Pleistocene, Salou, Spain, in October, 2011, at which he presented “Neanderthals, Bears and Hyenas, oh my! Competition for exclusive use of space.” He co-authored a presentation with François Lanoë at the 77th annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, in Memphis, April, 2012, entitled “Spatial organization in the terminal Mousterian: Taphonomy and Neanderthal behavior at the Grotte du Bison, Arcy-sur-Cure.” Jim has also launched a new research program in collaboration with Grant McCall of Tulane University and Ted Marks, current grad student at Iowa. Jim was awarded a Social Studies Funding Program Seed Grant to fund travel for him, Grant, Ted and another colleague. They will travel to Africa this summer to excavate at Erb Tanks Rock Shelter, Namibia to investigate behavioral modernity in the Middle Stone Age.

ROBERT FRANCISCUS

Bob co-authored five papers published in 2011, including two in the *Journal of Human Evolution*: “Climatic adaptation and Neanderthal facial evolution: A comment on Rae et al.” 61:624-627; and, “New 1.5 million-year-old *Homo erectus* maxilla from Sangiran (Central Java, Indonesia).” 61:363-376; two in the *American Journal of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics*: “Cervical vertebrae maturation method morphologic criteria: poor reproducibility.” 140:182-188; and, “Chin development as a result of differential jaw growth.” 139:456-464; and one in the *Anatomical Record*: “Nasal Septal and premaxillary developmental integration: implications for facial reduction in *Homo*.” 294:68-78. Bob was also a co-presenter of three posters at the American Association of Physical Anthropologists meeting held last year in Minneapolis, and co-presenter for a poster at the 2011 International Association for Dental Research held in San Diego. Last year, he also continued his role as book review editor for the *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*. Bob was also engaged in several forensic consultations this past year with both the UI Department of Pathology and the Johnson County Medical Examiner’s Office. Finally, Bob was also pleased to hood his fourth PhD graduate student, Dr. Scott Maddux, in 2011.

LAURA GRAHAM

Laurie Graham’s film, *OWNERS OF THE WATER: Conflict and Collaboration over Rivers* (DER 2009, co-directed with indigenous filmmakers David Hernández Palmar, Wayuu and Caimi Waiassé, Xavante) received the Honorable Mention Award for Advocacy in the 8th Annual Montana CINE International Film Festival in Missoula, Montana. The film also screened at Latin American Festival of Hamburg and at the Mostra de Filmes da XXVIII International Congress of Latin American Sociologists (ALAS) held at the Universidade Federal de Pernambuco (UFPE) in Recife, Brazil. Graham launched a website for the film, www.ownersofthewater.org. In September, 2011 she served as judge for the Recife Ethnographic Film Festival, Brazil. Graham’s article, “Citando Mario Juruna: Imaginário linguístico e a transformação da voz indígena na imprensa brasileira,” was published in the leading Brazilian sociocultural anthropology journal *MANA: Estudos de Antropologia Social* 17(2):271-312; her well-known 1995 American Anthropologist article, co-authored with Beth Conklin, was published in Spanish as, “El punto medio cambiante: Indígenas amazónicos y ecopolítica,” in *Perspectivas antropológicas sobre la Amazonia contemporánea*, edited by Margarita Chaves and Carlos del Cairo, eds. Bogota: Instituto Colombiano de Antropología e Historia y la Editorial Pontificia Universidad

UPDATE FACULTY

Javeriana, 155-187. Graham presented “Class and Alliance: Brazil’s Indigenous Peoples,” at the AAA meetings in Montreal, Canada in the invited Roundtable session, From Class Struggle to Indigenous Rights? Comparing Processes, Policies and Politics Globally. She gave numerous invited talks, including five in Brazil: two at the Federal University of Pernambuco; a Keynote Address and a second talk at the University of São Paulo, one at Federal University of Paraíba. She gave two talks at the University of California at San Diego and Pitzer College and one at the University of California at Davis. She was a featured speaker in the session on water at the 2011 U Iowa Global Health Conference and a guest speaker on the WorldCavass Public Radio program, “Starving for Water.” With Dr. Erica Prussing she organized a AAA session, “Tracing Human Rights Discourse in Advocacy by Indigenous Peoples.” This year Professor Graham completed her three-year term on the Executive Board of the American Anthropological Association, in the Linguistic Seat. She served as a mentor in the AAA Leadership/Fellows Program and chaired the American Anthropologist, Editor-in-Chief Selection Committee for the American Anthropological Association. After recruiting a very strong applicant pool Graham recused herself from the committee so that she would not have a conflict of interest in the actual selection process. She is pleased that her colleague Dr. Michael Chibnik was selected to become the next editor of the *American Anthropologist*.

ADI HASTINGS

Adi Hastings is currently working on a book entitled *Modern Sanskrit in Six Easy Lessons: The Politics and Poetics of a Classical Language*, which deals with the lamination of a modernist aesthetic on to the Sanskrit language over the last two centuries, transforming it into an object of national imagining in the contemporary era. He currently has several essays either under review or forthcoming concerning: the ritualization of the Sanskrit language everyday, colonial classificatory schemes in the early twentieth-century Linguistic Survey of India, and attempts to frame Sanskrit as a language of science and inherently scientific itself. When he can clear up all the permissions for image use, he will also be publishing an essay on the trope of devotion as a way to understand movie star fandom in South Asia. He’s also working on a small piece on the construction of mediated publics through the phenomenon of 2Girls1Cup response videos, although he doubts anyone will publish it.



Professor Ellen Lewin received the 18th SANA Prize for Distinguished Achievement in the Critical Study of North America, awarded by the Society for the Anthropology of North America.

An excerpt from the prize committee’s statement:

“Her long career exemplifies her commitment to social justice and to the value of that extraordinary combination of doing superior research and scholarship, all the while being a teacher/ administrator/ activist in and outside of the academy.”

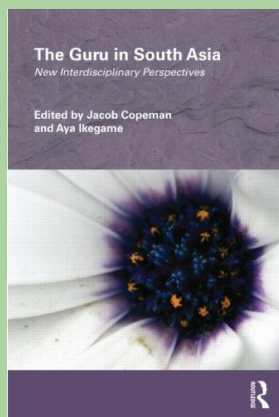
UPDATE FACULTY



Photo courtesy of Katina Lillios

Above: Professor Katina Lillios visiting the Longmen Caves in Luoyang, China.

Below: Professor Meena Khandelwal contributed an essay, “The Cosmopolitan Guru,” to *The Guru in South Asia: New Interdisciplinary Perspectives*. Copeman, J. and A. Ikegame, Eds. Routledge, 2012.



MATTHEW HILL

In the last year I continued my fieldwork and laboratory projects focused on my two main research interests: the earliest big game hunters of the Americas, and the impact that hunting on the past environments of the Great Plains. This work resulted in a couple of articles appearing in the *Journal of Field Archaeology* and *American Antiquity*. I also conducted a short field season with undergraduates and a graduate student in western Kansas.

MEENA KHANDELWAL

Meena Khandelwal continues to be involved in research on Hindu renunciation, most recently through publication of her essay “The Cosmopolitan Guru” in *The Guru* (Routledge 2012), edited by Copeman and Ikegame. At the same time, her research is moving in the direction of migration and development issues. This work includes a paper on Nachte Raho, University of Iowa’s Indian dance competition, and a long term study of US-based Indian diaspora’s involvement in development NGOs that work in India. This project emerges from a wish to understand the NGOization of development in the neoliberal era as well as development experts’ turn to diasporas as a resource even in the absence of empirical research on the non-financial impact. With the support of an IP Major Projects Award, she organized (with Mark Sidel, U.W.-Madison) a workshop on Indian diaspora and social development, which took place in March 2012 at UI. In addition, Meena has begun collaborating with Prof. Udaykumar (UI, Engineering) on project to address intertwined issues of energy use, cooking fuel, forest and water resources, gender, and household labor in Rajasthan, India.

During 2011-2012 Meena made major administrative contributions to her two departments and the University of Iowa, serving on Educational Policy Committee (elected), Faculty Assembly, Crossing Borders Executive Committee, and Director of Undergraduate Studies for GWSS. Beyond UI, she is a council member (elected) for Association of Asian Studies, for which she chaired the graduate student prize committee, and currently serves as co-editor for Indian Traditions section of *Religion Compass*, for which she commissions “state of the field” essays from major scholars in South Asian Studies and sees them through the peer-review process.

ELLEN LEWIN

Ellen continues to work ever so slowly with the members of an African

UPDATE FACULTY

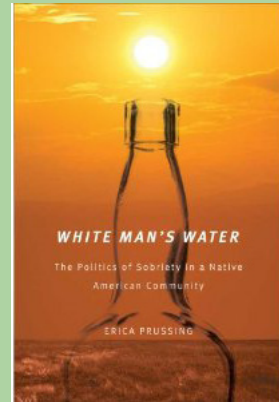
American lesbian/gay/transgender coalition of Pentecostal churches, spending spring 2012 working with the materials she's gathered over the past three years and beginning work on a book. This task has been eased by her being on leave, working at the wonderful Obermann Center. She has also begun her term as President Elect of the Association for Feminist Anthropology (AFA), a position she will hold for two years before beginning her two-year term as President. At the AAA meetings in November, she was awarded the 18th SANA Prize for Distinguished Achievement in the Critical Study of North America, awarded by the Society for the Anthropology of North America.

KATINA LILLIOS

This year Katina received a National Science Foundation grant for a 3-year international project that will assess the ecological role for the social changes, including sociopolitical collapse, that occurred in the Sizandro River Valley of Portugal between the 3rd and 2nd millennia BC. One final year of excavation at Bolores is planned, as well as two seasons of survey. Joe Alan Artz, of the Office of the State Archaeologist is the project Co-PI, and Anna Waterman is the project biological anthropologist. In addition to its contributions to wider debates on the role of environmental change on societies, the project will provide important training opportunities for students. Katina was selected to be the Archaeological Institute of America Archaeology of Portugal lecturer this year, and traveled to different AIA societies in the US to speak about her research on the engraved plaques and the use of material mnemonics in Neolithic Iberia. She taught a new course in the fall: Politics of the Archaeological Past. She also completed a manuscript on the museum guards in the early history of the Museu Etnológico Português and submitted it for review. In the summer of 2011, Katina enjoyed a memorable one-month trip to China with her family and reveled in having someone else (her husband) make all the important travel decisions.

ERICA PRUSSING

Erica visited several sites in both New Zealand and the United States in summer 2011 to gather pilot data for a new project, an international comparison of indigenous-controlled epidemiology research centers. She is specifically interested in how the knowledge produced by these centers is embedded within broader indigenous activism, both within and across these settings. Using these pilot data, she has now submitted two external grant applications with plans to undertake a fuller ethnographic study during her upcoming leave in spring semester 2013. Fall 2011 was a busy time: Erica's



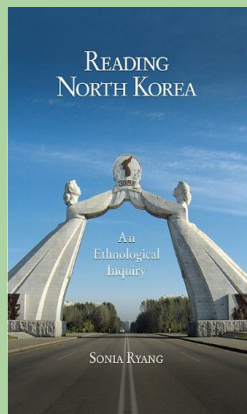
Professor Erica Prussing's book, *White Man's Water: The Politics of Sobriety in a Native American Community*, was published in 2011 by University of Arizona Press.

Below: Quote from a leading Maori health researcher, in a display about Maori activism at the national museum, Te Papa Tongarewa, in Wellington, New Zealand (Aotearoa).

*It goes back
to the Treaty
all the time.
You've got a big house,
plenty of room, and
you want a flatmate.
But 153 years later,
we've got the kennel
outside, they've got
the house and they're
charging us rent.*

Photo by E. Prussing, June 2011.

UPDATE FACULTY



Professor Sonia Ryang's new book, *Reading North Korea: An Ethnological Inquiry* was published in 2011 by Harvard University Press.

Professor Scott Schnell has a chapter, "Believing is Seeing: A Religious Perspective on Mountaineering in the Japanese Alps," in *Nature, Science, and Religion: Intersections Shaping Society and the Environment*, published in 2012 by SAR Press.



first book was published in October, and she was very pleased that her first doctoral student (Rachel Horner Brackett) successfully completed a fascinating dissertation and graduated in December. Erica continues to enjoy working with a variety of graduate students in our department and across campus who focus on medical anthropology, public health, gender studies, and/or Native American studies. She also appreciates opportunities to get to know Anthropology majors and honors students as Director of Undergraduate Studies. This year Erica has also started a 3-year term as academic coordinator for the small but vital American Indian & Native Studies Program within the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences.

SONIA RYANG

Sonia Ryang's new book, *Reading North Korea: An Ethnological Inquiry*, was published in 2011 from Harvard University Press. Her Iowa project, *At Risk in Iowa: Healthcare Disparities among Iowans of Asian Heritage*, is wrapping up -- she conducted five focus groups consisting of diverse ethnic minorities in Des Moines and is now producing the healthcare booklet in seven different languages. This past year, Ryang carried out multi-sited fieldwork in Baltimore, Los Angeles, Kona (Hawaii), and Iowa City. She is now writing up the book manuscript, based on these trips, on Korean food and globalization, tentatively entitled: *Eating Korean in America*.

SCOTT SCHNELL

Scott recently completed his four-year tenure as co-editor of the journal *Asian Ethnology*. He will remain on its editorial advisory board for the time being. His chapter "Believing is Seeing: A Religious Perspective on Mountaineering in the Japanese Alps" is being published this year by the School for Advanced Research (SAR) in a volume entitled *Nature, Science, and Religion: Intersections Shaping Society and the Environment*. Scott continues his research into the mountaineering and hunting traditions in Japan, focusing in particular on contemporary image production surrounding the *matagi*, traditional big-game hunters of the northeastern beech forests. In November he presented a paper entitled "*Matagi*: Images of the Hunting Tradition in Northeastern Japan" at the AAA meeting in Montreal. He has been invited to participate in a symposium in honor of famed Japanese folklorist/ethnographer Yanagita Kunio in Tono, Japan this August. Scott has received a career development award to pursue his research in Japan this coming fall, and has also been offered a Japan Foundation fellowship to extend it into next spring.

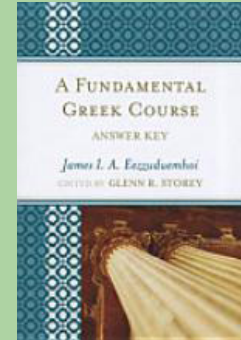
UPDATE FACULTY

GLENN STOREY

Glenn recently finished a long-term project, the transcription and editing of a beginning Classical Greek textbook by the Nigerian author James Eezzuduemhoi (*A Fundamental Greek Course*). The book was published by the University Press of America, 2009. At the 2010 Annual Meetings of the Classical Association of the Midwest and South in Oklahoma City, he and Eezzuduemhoi gave an invited presidential colloquium on the project. The key to the exercises in the text is about to be published by UPA. Glenn has also been working on publications for the experimental ground penetrating radar work carried out by graduate student Jason Thompson and himself. Much more ground penetrating radar work in Iowa is currently on the agenda as Glenn has assisted the Office of the State Archaeologist in their Dubuque Cemetery project. Glenn and his sister, Dr. Rebecca Storey of the Department of Anthropology, University of Houston, are collaborating on a book-length study of collapse, comparing Rome and the Maya. He has also been working on the Gangivecchio Archaeological Project materials, recently completing a study of the dating of brick tiles, completing analysis of the burials from the crypt tomb discovered in 2005 which is now thought to be that of the victims of the earthquake of A.D. 361. The project ceramist recently completed analysis of the 1974 investigations demonstrating that all the ceramics are Roman from the 1st to the 9th c. A.D. He hopes that a field school at Gangivecchio will be offered in the Summer of 2012.

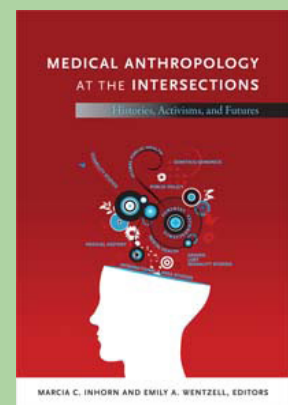
EMILY WENTZELL

Emily Wentzell's research combines approaches from medical anthropology, gender studies and science and technology studies to explore the gendered social consequences of illness, aging and sexual health intervention. She is enjoying a productive second year at Iowa, having published articles in the journals *Men and Masculinities*, *Body & Society*, and *American Ethnologist*, and in the edited volumes *Gender and the Science of Difference* (Rutgers University Press) and *A Companion to the Anthropology of the Body and Embodiment* (Wiley-Blackwell). She has work forthcoming in the journal *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*, and the edited volumes *Aging Men: Masculinities and Modern Medicine* (Routledge) and *Transitions and Transformations: Cultural Perspectives on the Life Course* (Berghahn Books). A volume that Emily co-edited, *Medical Anthropology at the Intersections*, is coming out this summer from Duke University Press, who will also publish her forthcoming monograph, tentatively entitled, *Maturing Machos: Aging, Chronic Illness and Viagra in Mexico*. Over the summer, Emily will continue her field research with married

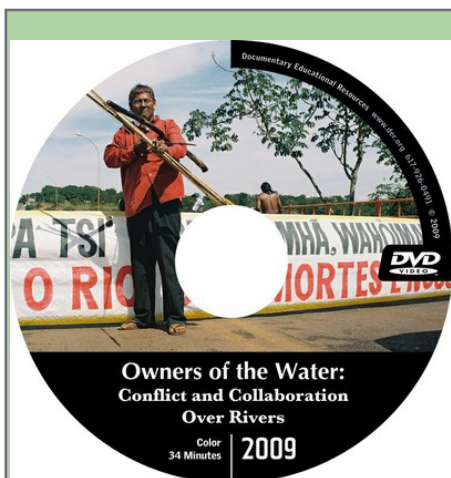


Professor Glenn Storey's edited volume, *A Fundamental Greek Course: Answer Key* by James Eezzuduemhoi, was published in 2011 by Rowman & Littlefield.

Professor Emily Wentzell is co-editor of *Medical Anthropology at the Intersections: Histories, Activisms, and Futures*. Inhorn, M. and E. Wentzell, Eds. Duke University Press, forthcoming September 2012.



UPDATE FACULTY



Professor Laura Graham has launched a website for the film *OWNERS OF THE WATER: Conflict and Collaboration over Rivers* (DER 2009, co-directed with indigenous filmmakers David Hernández Palmar, Wayuu and Caimi Waiassé, Xavante). The website can be accessed at www.ownersofthewater.org

couples participating in the Cuernavaca, Mexico arm of a multinational, longitudinal study of HPV transmission.

VISITING FACULTY

JONATHAN LARSON

Jonathan's research focuses on practices of criticism in East Central Europe. While affiliated with the UI Department of Anthropology during the past year, Jonathan has been employed full-time at the UI Academic Advising Center. He has enjoyed getting to focus on mentoring and advising students as well as doing a kind of armchair ethnography of the university in learning about many departments and programs about which he previously knew nothing. The past year was a rewarding one for his scholarship. Jonathan revised and resubmitted a book manuscript that has now been accepted for publication by the University of Rochester Press. The book, provisionally titled *Critical Thinking in Slovakia after Socialism*, is set to come out in June 2013. He also wrote an essay titled "Intimacy, Field Research, and 21st Century Worlds" for a special issue of *Slovak Ethnologist* on intimacy, and published several reviews. In May 2011 Jonathan received a fellowship from ACLS to present at a Princeton conference on language under socialism. He also recently presented at a University of Wisconsin Mellon-supported workshop on "lived inquiry." Currently he is working on three articles for edited volumes on neoliberalism in post-socialist Europe, language in socialist Eastern Europe, and the circulation of ideas and practices from socialist Eastern Europe to North America. He has also continued to develop his next book project on space and sentiment in Czechoslovak samizdat periodicals.

At the time of writing, Jonathan has just accepted a position at Grinnell College as Assistant Director of Off-Campus Study, where his responsibilities will include overseeing two programs and helping the college internationalize the curriculum and integrate students' international experiences better into their on-campus study. His wife, Deborah Michaels, teaches at Grinnell. He will no longer be affiliated with the UI Department of Anthropology, although he hopes to remain in regular contact. He thanks everyone for the warm reception that he received during these past three years at the UI. He can be reached at larsjonathan@gmail.com.

UPDATE FACULTY

ADJUNCT FACULTY

JOHN DOERSHUK

John Doershuk, State Archaeologist and adjunct assistant professor in the Department of Anthropology, taught a First-year Seminar entitled “Archaeology” during the fall semester (2011) which introduced new UI students to the many resources on the campus for learning about the archaeological past, including labs at the OSA and Macbride Hall. He is looking forward to teaching “CRM Archaeology: Practice and Practicalities” during spring semester 2013. He will be teaching an introductory archaeology field course for Cornell College students during their upcoming September 2011 block (Cornell students are on a one-course-at-a-time schedule). Doershuk attended the fall 2011 Midwest Archaeological Conference, Inc. annual meeting and presented a paper on recent research at the War of 1812 Fort Madison battlefield site; he will present a poster on the same site at the spring 2012 Society for American Archaeology conference in Memphis. In addition to serving as the MAC, Inc. Treasurer, he continues to serve on the UI Research Council as well as the Register of Professional Archaeologists’ Field School Certification Committee. He reminds all students with archaeological interests to visit OSA and avail themselves of the collections, archives, and personnel to enhance their UI learning experience.

KEVIN KELLY

Associate research scientist, College of Public Health and adjunct associate professor in the Department of Anthropology, continues work on two CDC funded center grants as well as numerous extracurricular and outreach projects. He is co-investigator and study coordinator for the Keokuk County Rural Health Study and co-investigator and co-director, Evaluation Center, Healthier Workforce Center for Excellence. Extracurricular activities include working with U of South Florida academic and U of Iowa anthropology alumnus (PhD 1993), Richard Nisbett on the analysis of West African anthropometric data, continued collaboration with Dr. John Terrell of the Field Museum, and a manuscript regarding the demise of pre-Columbian lowland population. With the recent publication of the book chapter, “Biological Basis of Cleft Palate,” he now adds ‘veterinary medicine’ to the varied list of academic disciplines within which he has published. Kevin encourages student with interests in human health and variations to contact him regarding research and publication opportunities.



The department was well represented at the 2012 Society for American Archaeology meetings with presentations by faculty members Russell Ciochon, John Doershuk, Jim Enloe, Bob Franciscus, Matt Hill, Katina Lillios and graduate students Kéelin Baine, Erica Begun-Veenstra, Christian Haunton, Ted Marks, Shelby Putt, Cerisa Reynolds, Jonathan T. Thomas, Anna Waterman, and Meredith Wismer.

UPDATE GRADUATE STUDENTS

KÉELIN BAINE

Kéelin spent the summer of 2011 finishing her data collection in Ireland. She also found time to go surfing off the northwest coast of Ireland and was inducted in the *Guinness World Records Book* for being part of the world's largest number of people dressed as "Where's Waldo" in one place. Since returning in the fall, Kéelin has been working on her dissertation and was awarded travel grants from the Center for Global and Regional Environmental Research and from the Graduate Student Senate to present the initial results of her data analyses at the annual SAA conference in Memphis during April. Kéelin has competed in several races throughout the year, winning two 5ks in the fall, running a 4 miler with fellow grad student Hannah Marsh in the spring, and placed in the top ten percent at the St. Louis Half Marathon! She continues working as a personal trainer, a nutrition coach, boot camp instructor, and is almost finished with her yoga instructor certification!

ERICA BEGUN-VEENSTRA

Erica is a PhD candidate currently living up in the somewhat-great state of Michigan. Her current research deals with the West Mexican ethnic presence at Teotihuacan during the Classic period. She presented her research at the SAAs in Memphis. She hopes that things settle down in Michoacán in the future so she can return there in order to do work on the origins of the state and emergence of social stratification in the area. She has spent the last year working on her dissertation and teaching as a part time adjunct at Grand Valley State University in Grand Rapids, MI (the commute has given her ample time to catch up on audiobooks...suggestions always welcome!)

CINDEE CALTON

Cindee is a fifth year student in linguistic anthropology. Her research examines ideologies of ASL students and their teachers, and how these ideologies influence classroom experiences. This past year Cindee conducted a multi-site dissertation research project at US universities about sign language in higher education. She is currently in the process of writing her findings. Cindee's paper, "Sign-Gain: What We Learned From Sign Languages When we Stopped Having to Defend Them" was accepted to the upcoming edited volume, *The New Normal: Deaf-gain and the Future of Human Diversity*. Cindee is increasingly discovering that remaining sane while dissertating would not be possible without her husband, Tony Fanchi.



Photo courtesy of Kéelin Baine

Above: Kéelin Baine takes a break from data collection to participate in the world's largest gathering of people dressed as "Where's Waldo" in one place. The event took place in Dublin, Ireland in the summer of 2011.

Kéelin writes: "Yes. I'm officially in the *Guinness World Book of Records*. For dressing as Waldo."

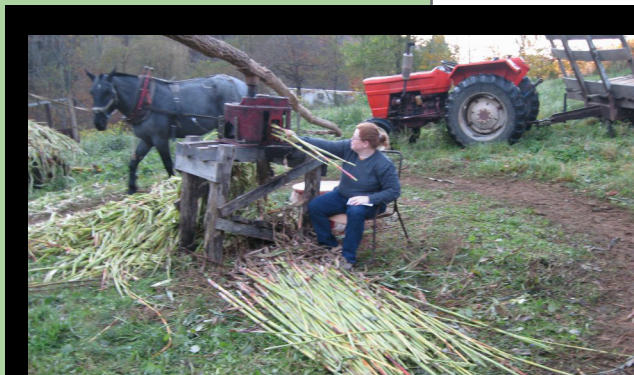
UPDATE GRADUATE STUDENTS



Photos courtesy of Susie Donaldson

Above: Susie Donaldson hangs harvested tobacco on a scaffold wagon.

Below: Susie is grinding sorghum in the traditional “mountain way,” in preparation for making molasses in the traditional “mountain way.”



SUSIE DONALDSON

Susie is a PhD candidate in cultural anthropology. This spring Susie returned to Iowa City from her dissertation fieldsite in northeast Tennessee, where she studied burley tobacco farmers and farmworkers. Her work focuses on local definitions of “hard work” and how defining ones work provides farmers the space to claim a farmworker identity. In November, Susie presented a paper, “Public Policy vs. Agrarian Culture?: How Public Health Initiatives Influence Farm Families who Grow Burley Tobacco,” at the 2011 AAAs. As part of a panel aimed

at challenging the traditional way we study tobacco and tobacco use, the paper explored the ways public health initiatives (namely initiatives by the WHO and FDA) add credence to the power Big Tobacco exerts over family farmers. In March, Susie presented two papers: “Tobacco Baskets: The Embodiment of Cultural Memory,” at the annual Appalachian Studies Conference and “Farmers and Farm Work: Burley Tobacco, Worker Safety, and the Definition of ‘Hard Work,’” presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology. Susie continues to act as Anthropology News Section News co-editor for *Culture & Agriculture* and is serving as Program Chair for the same group. Susie also served as co-COGS Steward for the Anthropology Department during the 2011-2012 school year.

ELIAS “ELI” GONZALEZ

Elias “Eli” Gonzalez is completing his first year in the PhD program and has been enjoying every minute of it. He and his cat “Frodo” have adjusted to life in Iowa City rather well and feel lucky their first winter “up north” was not as bad as they had dreaded. Eli’s research interest is focused on the anthropology of sexuality and he is interested in working with sexual

minority populations such as: queer/lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) communities, kink communities and queer people of color. He is also interested in the field of medical anthropology as they pertain to these communities. He received his MA in Sociology from the University of Texas at El Paso where his thesis, “Is Silence Golden? Silence, Stigma, and Sexuality among LGB people in El Paso, TX” looked at the phenomenon of sexual silence and stigma as they pertain to the lives of LGB individuals living in El Paso, TX. He presented preliminary findings at the Southwest Social Science

UPDATE GRADUATE STUDENTS

Association meetings in Las Vegas in March 2011. He more recently presented some of his findings at the first graduate student brown bag in December. His current dissertation topic will explore the use, construction and negotiation of space and safety for LGBT individuals living on the U.S.-Mexico border, specifically in the cities of El Paso and Ciudad Juarez. His main goal this year is to prepare for his comprehensive exams and proposal prior to entering the field. Other goals are to create and submit articles for publication drawn from his master's thesis research and present at the AAA conference in November.

JENNA GRANT

Jenna is a PhD candidate currently writing her dissertation on biomedical imaging technologies in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Her fieldwork moved between diagnostic imaging wards and non-clinical settings, among patients, their families, doctors, nurses, technicians, health administrators, distributors and manufacturers. Archival research in Phnom Penh and France traced the emergence of biomedical technologies in postcolonial medicine. In summer of 2011 Jenna returned to Cambodia for research on a related project, analysis of the *Annals of the Khmer-Soviet Friendship Hospital*, a Cambodian-Soviet biomedical journal published in French between 1961 and 1971. This research was supported by a senior fellowship from the Center for Khmer Studies. In an article currently under review, Jenna situates the *Annals* within the modernity of the 1960 era, when biomedicine was a pillar of post-Independence national development and a vehicle of Cold War diplomacy. The paper examines how the *Annals* contributors brought a particular form of biomedicine into being, one that was scientific and political, collaborative and pragmatic, commercially oriented and economically constrained. In July 2011 Jenna gave a paper at the conference 'Transforming Cambodian Studies' hosted by the Center for Khmer Studies in Siem Reap, Cambodia.

Jenna is currently based in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, where she has an affiliation with the Health, Care, and the Body programme at the Amsterdam Institute for Social Science Research (AISSR) at the University of Amsterdam.

BRANDI JANSSEN

The majority of 2011 was spent in the field, in some cases literally. I officially finished collecting data in August. However, as those of you who have fieldsites near home know, one is always collecting data, even when you don't mean to. This academic year has been devoted to writing and



Photo courtesy of Cindee Calton

Above: Cindee Calton signs the ultimate in anthropological questions: "Why?"



CONGRATULATIONS

Christina Nicholas, Tony Pomales, and Jill Scott were awarded 2012 T. Anne Cleary International Dissertation Research Fellowships.

UPDATE GRADUATE STUDENTS



CONGRATULATIONS

Nina Ortiz and Alissa Whitmore were awarded Seashore & Ballard Dissertation Year Fellowships for 2012-2013.

Ted Marks was awarded a Sigma Xi Grant-in-Aid of Research for his archaeological project in Namibia.

Jill Scott and Clare Tolmie were awarded 2012 Graduate College Summer Fellowships.

Jill Scott was awarded a June Helm Graduate Scholarship for 2012-2013.

teaching and I find that one process often informs the other. I will still be on campus in 2012-13, working for the *American Anthropologist*.

NOAH JOHNSON

Noah is a first-year graduate student that comes to the University of Iowa after a decade in the workforce. His research focus is on the issues of representation, politico-cultural discourse and struggle, the place of ritual and the creation of self-identity--specifically in the practice of traditional martial arts. Noah will be conducting his preliminary fieldwork into the practice and organization of Matsubayashi Shorin-ryu karate this summer, and this study will form the backbone of his thesis.

FARAI MARAZI

Farai Marazi just completed the fourth year of graduate studies in the Anthropology program. Throughout this period, his research interests and coursework in medical anthropology have focused on unmasking the sources of social inequality and poor health for the homeless by exploring conditions of inadequate housing and health structures. His current work involves the use of ethnographic methods to investigate diabetes treatment for homeless people in Brooklyn, New York, that use mobile clinics. During the summer of 2011, Farai was in New York City conducting pilot research for the proposed project, which will be the subject of his dissertation fieldwork beginning in January 2013. The aim of the study is to examine the microeconomic demands of treating diabetes that pose problems to homeless populations, and the degree to which their health care providers understand and respond to this social context.

HANNAH MARSH

Hannah Marsh is a PhD candidate in Physical Anthropology working on her dissertation entitled "Cranial Vault Thickness in Recent *Homo sapiens*." She is interested in mapping thickness variation in each cranial vault and identifying patterns of thickness, as opposed to treating individual thickness measurements as independent traits. Thickness patterns include spatial distribution of variation, allowing a more holistic study of this trait that is seen to vary through the evolution of the genus *Homo*. Hannah is beginning research into identifying thickness patterns in other *Homo* species. Throughout the last year, she has also been teaching Human Origins for the University of Iowa Anthropology Department, An Introduction to Human Gross Anatomy for the University of Iowa College of Dentistry, and Human Evolution and Human Biology for Kirkwood Community College.

UPDATE GRADUATE STUDENTS

BRANDI MULLER

Having graduated from the University of Iowa with a B.A. in Anthropology in May of 2011, Brandi is finishing her first year of graduate school with a focus on medical anthropology. She is particularly interested in American cultures of food and eating, cross-cultural food studies, and American cultural contributions to obesity. This summer, she will begin field research for her M.A. project during which she will be studying the relationships between occupational spaces and diet. In the fall of 2012, she will begin teaching assistantship and the writing portion of her M.A. project.

ALEJANDRO MUZZIO

Alejandro Muzzio a fourth year Cultural Anthropology PhD student. Last summer Alejandro collected preliminary research data in Honduras. Currently he is completing his comprehensive exams. Next year he will be applying for funding and conducting field research in Honduras. His dissertation will focus on the outcomes of tourism, development and protected areas amongst Honduras' Garifuna population.

LIZ NEWBURY

Liz has just finished her fifth year as a medical anthropology graduate student. She successfully completed comprehensive exams in Fall 2011 and is now beginning data collection for her dissertation. She will be dividing time over the next year between biobanks in Iowa and Wisconsin, focusing on negotiations between lay and professional knowledges in the work of the biobanks' community advisory boards. Liz co-authored two papers published in 2011: "Active choice but not too active: Public perspectives on biobank consent models," Simon et al., *Genetics in Medicine* 13:821-831; and "Protecting participants, promoting progress: Public perspectives on community advisory boards (CABs) in biobanking," Simon, Newbury, and L'Heureux, *Journal of Empirical Research on Human Research Ethics* 6(3):19-30. She also gave an invited talk on ethical and social issues in biobanking at Central College's first-year "Intersections" seminar in September 2011. Additionally, Liz continues to enjoy working part-time with a multi-disciplinary group of colleagues in the Center for Comprehensive Access and Delivery Research and Evaluation (CADRE) at the Iowa City VA Health Care System.

CHRISTINA NICHOLAS

Christina Nicholas has just finished her 5th year as a paleoanthropology graduate student. In Fall of 2011 she successfully completed her comprehensive exams, and she is now beginning data collection for her

2011-2012 GRADUATE STUDENT BROWN BAG SERIES

Eli Gonzalez: "Is Silence Golden? Silence, Stigma, and Sexuality among LGB People in El Paso, TX," December 2011.

Susie Donaldson: "Tobacco Baskets: The Embodiment of Cultural Memory," April 2012.

Liz Newbury: "Preliminary Research Notes on a Community Advisory Group's Role in Biobank Governance," April 2012.

Alissa Whitmore: "Small Finds and the Social Environment of Roman Public Baths," April 2012.

Below: Tobacco Basket

Google Images stock image



UPDATE GRADUATE STUDENTS

CONGRATULATIONS

to Nina Ortiz. Nina was the recipient of the 2011 June Helm Award. The June Helm Award is a solely grad student administered award and provides a means for UI Department of Anthropology grad students to recognize one of our own peers for commitment to service to the department and to the broader community.

The award is given in honor of our department's founder and her life of service to the four-fielded discipline of Anthropology. June Helm's record of service to the discipline, 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. 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.

dissertation. Christina studies mid-facial growth and development across the genus *Homo*, with a particular interest in the relationship between nasal and dental morphology. The first phase of her data collection, looking at CT scans of extant humans, is taking place here on campus; she hopes to also collect data on hominin fossils next summer. In April of 2012, Christina gave an invited lecture to the Dows Institute of Dental Research at the University of Iowa entitled "Populational variation in dental development: an anthropological perspective on maxillary ontogeny".

CRISTINA (NINA) ORTIZ

I have finally begun to write my dissertation with generous financial support from a Marcus Bach Fellowship and the Jane Weiss Memorial Scholarship. My final year of dissertation writing (next year) will be funded by a Ballard-Seashore, yay! I continue to live in Columbus Junction and have enjoyed teaching adult English class and bilingual GED classes. And, as last year's June Helm Award recipient, I'm looking forward to passing it on!

TONY POMALES

Tony is completing his fourth year of graduate studies in cultural anthropology with a focus on medical and feminist anthropology. He completed his undergraduate studies at the University of Notre Dame. His research interests include the politics of reproduction and gender and sexuality in Latin America. Tony is currently writing grant applications in preparation for a year of fieldwork in Costa Rica. His dissertation research will: (1) explore the ways Costa Rican men use and challenge culturally dominant notions of masculinity through their active involvement in contraception; and (2) investigate how globally circulating discourses of family planning and modernity shape Costa Rican men's and women's knowledge and daily negotiations of contraception. Tony's paper entitled "Men's Narratives of Vasectomy: Rearticulating Masculinity and Contraceptive Responsibility in San Jose, Costa Rica" (based on his Master's degree research) is forthcoming from *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*. Tony's MA research was presented at the 2011 annual meeting of the Central States Anthropological Society and at the 2011 annual meeting of the American Men's Studies Association.

SHELBY PUTT

Shelby is a third year student with a focus in paleoanthropology. Since last year, she completed the requirements for the MA with her paper entitled,

UPDATE GRADUATE STUDENTS

“The silent tool-makers: A pilot experiment into the relationship between the Acheulian and spoken language.” Shelby received a summer fellowship from the Department of Anthropology to take flintknapping lessons and continue collecting data from the ~19,000 flakes produced by the participants in her experimental flintknapping study. With the help of her “Army of Undergraduates,” she completed her data collection and is now preparing a manuscript for publication. She will be presenting a poster at the Society for American Archaeology conference in Memphis, TN, for which she received a Graduate Student Senate Travel Grant Award. Shelby continues to TA for Human Origins and dreams of one day having an office with a window.

MISHA QUILL

Misha is a PhD candidate, currently conducting dissertation fieldwork on the role of international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) on the resolution of protracted refugee situations. Her fieldsite is in Teknaf, Bangladesh, where a number of INGOs work alongside local organizations and UN agencies to assist Rohingya refugees, most of whom fled Myanmar in the 1990s.

Misha’s fieldwork has been supported by a dissertation fellowship from the American Institute of Bangladesh Studies, a T. Anne Cleary Fellowship, Crossing Borders research funds, and summer funding from the UI graduate college. In summer 2011, Misha was a recipient of the US Department of State, Council of Overseas Research Centers Critical Language Fellowship for further Bengali language study in Dhaka.

CERISA REYNOLDS

During the 2011 summer, Cerisa moved back home to Colorado to finish writing her Dissertation in the foothills of the beautiful Rocky Mountains. This was made possible thanks to the support of a University of Iowa Ballard and Seashore Dissertation Year Fellowship and a Wenner-Gren Foundation Dissertation Fieldwork Grant. Her Dissertation focuses upon resource stress (as seen through the faunal record) during the earliest years of agricultural dependency in the northern U.S. Southwest. Different aspects of the results of her research were presented at the Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists Annual Meeting in Durango, Colorado and at the Society for American Archaeology’s Annual Meeting in Memphis, Tennessee. This year she also continued research with fellow graduate student Meredith Wismer on a Late Prehistoric site in North Park, Colorado, analyzed the faunal remains from a prehistoric site in Northern California, and began analyzing mammoth bones from a Late Glacial Maximum site located in Jewell County, Kansas for Dr. Steven R. Holen of the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. Cerisa will begin teaching as an Anthropology Instructor at Aims Community College in Greeley, Colorado in the Fall of 2012, and is truly grateful for the friends she made while at Iowa.

JILL SCOTT

Jill is a fifth-year graduate student in paleoanthropology, and she successfully completed her comprehensive exams in spring 2011. Jill’s research continues to focus on the assessment of the evolutionary significance of the chin in *Homo sapiens* as well as assessing variation in mandibular symphyseal morphology across genus *Homo*. Since entering the ABD stage of graduate school, Jill has been busily working on grant proposals and manuscript preparation. Additionally, Jill has spent the 2011-2012 academic year teaching two new (to her) classes: Anthropology of Violence and The Evolution of Human Sex. During the last year, Jill has also enjoyed serving

UPDATE GRADUATE STUDENTS

as a Research Grant reviewer for the UI Executive Council of Graduate & Professional Students, a peer reviewer for the *Journal of Contemporary Anthropology*, the Facebook page administrator for the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, secretary for the UI Graduate Student Anthropology Association, and guest lecturing about forensic anthropology in biology classes at West High School. Jill also co-authored a paper along with nine colleagues from the UI Department of Anthropology, Department of Orthodontics, and other areas of dentistry in April 2011 in the *American Journal of Orthodontics & Dentofacial Orthopedics* entitled “Chin development as a result of differential jaw growth.” Finally, Jill enjoyed her brief stint volunteering with the University of Iowa Archaeological Field School at Hickory Hill Park in May 2011.

RACHEL TANQUIST

Rachel Tanquist is a Cultural Anthropology graduate student and teaching assistant at the University of Iowa. Her research specialization is masculinity, violence, and cooperation in the professional sport of Mixed Martial Arts (MMA). She conducted her field research at an elite MMA training center in Iowa. Rachel graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of Minnesota with a double major in Anthropology and Cultural Studies/Comparative Literature. She presented at the 2011 Performing Ethnicity through Sport Conference and the 2012 Jakobsen conference at University of Iowa.

JONATHAN T. THOMAS

Jonathan T. Thomas is an anthropologist and writer who studies the relationship between the production of material culture and the history of social complexity. His research and fieldwork center on the creation of complex sociopolitical identities through the use of personal ornaments in Late Neolithic and Copper Age Iberia, and how technological reorganization in the Namib Desert, central Namibia, reflects the emergence of culturally modern behaviors during the African Middle Stone Age. His laboratory work involves experimental archaeology, optical, petrographic, and SEM/EDX microscopy as well as stable isotope analysis using ICP-MS for material analysis and geochemical sourcing. In 2011, he published “Fashioning Identities, Forging Inequalities: Late Neolithic/Copper Age Personal Ornaments of the Portuguese Estremadura” in the *European Journal of Archaeology*, and began his dissertation research with the support of a Wenner-Gren Foundation grant. In 2012 he co-authored an article, “Erb Tanks: a Middle and Later Stone Age Rockshelter in the Central Namib Desert, Western Namibia” that appeared in *Paleoanthropology*, and contributed a book



Photo courtesy of Jenna Grant

Above: Cover of the 1968 edition of the Annals of the Khmer-Soviet Friendship Hospital.

Below: Jenna Grant with Y Dari, archivist at the National Archives of Cambodia (July 2011).

Photo courtesy of Jenna Grant



UPDATE GRADUATE STUDENTS



Above: Shelby Putt demonstrates flintknapping skills at Archaeology Day, October 2011.

Below: Archaeology Day 2011 attendees try their hands at flintknapping.

Photos courtesy of Shelby Putt



chapter entitled “Scents and Sensibilities: The Phenomenology of Late Neolithic Iberian Slate Plaque Production” in the volume *Making Senses of the Past: Toward a Sensory Archaeology*. Jonathan is currently at work finishing his dissertation and writing an article on the impact of feminist archaeology on the changing interpretations of the Upper Paleolithic Venus figurines. The courses he has taught include Introduction to Prehistory, Rhetoric, The Anthropology of Art, and The Origins of Inequality.

CLARE TOLMIE

Last summer I returned as a member of the excavation crew at the Grotte du Renne, Arcy-sur-Cure, as we continued excavation of the Mousterian levels. Since then I have focused on data collection, either analyzing the Abri Cellier fauna in Iowa or at Beloit, or travelling to France to work with Francine David on the Châtelperronian fauna from level Xc of the Grotte du Renne, Arcy sur Cure which is housed at the CNRS, University of Paris, Nanterre. Now I just have to analyze all the data (just!) and then write up..... but I shall return to France in May to continue digging at Grotte du Bison. Before that, I will be presenting a paper on my research at the Society for American Archaeology meeting in Memphis.

My research this past year has been supported by a T. Anne Cleary Graduate student fellowship, and a CGRER Research Travel Grant and I have just been awarded a University of Iowa Summer Graduate Fellowship to partially fund my analysis/writing.

SARAH TRABERT

Sarah is finishing up her fourth year and comprehensive exams and hopes to switch gears and do data collection over the summer and throughout next year. Her dissertation is focusing on the effects of colonialism on populations *not* directly under colonial rule and will continue her research into the connections between Puebloan groups in the Southwest and Dismal River Aspect groups living on the High Plains during the Protohistoric period. She will be applying for a NSF grant soon and will spend much of the summer and fall applying for additional grants to fund her research. Sarah looks forward to field work this summer as Christian Haunton’s field assistant at his project in the Amanas and she will be traveling to Kansas and Nebraska to do research and visit family and friends.

UPDATE GRADUATE STUDENTS

JENNIFER TRIVEDI

Jennifer is a sociocultural anthropology PhD student writing her dissertation on recovery from Hurricane Katrina in Biloxi, Mississippi. Her research interests include disasters, preparedness, mitigation, recovery, vulnerability, risk, memories of disasters, and FEMA. In addition to work on post-Katrina Biloxi, Jennifer has conducted research on the 2008 Midwestern floods, the organization and history of FEMA, and media coverage of disasters. Her mini-essay, "Vulnerability, Agency, and Recovery: East Biloxi After Hurricane Katrina," appeared in the Society for Applied Anthropology newsletter in November 2011. She presented papers at the Center for Rebuilding Sustainable Communities After Disasters' workshop on "Innovation, Diversity and Sustainable Development in Areas of Social Vulnerability" in November 2011 and at the annual meetings for the SfAA in March 2012. In 2012 and 2013, Jennifer has forthcoming encyclopedia articles on the definition of disasters, documentation, FEMA, hurricanes, typhoons, and cyclones, NIMS, and poverty in the *Encyclopedia of Crisis Management*, an encyclopedia article on Hurricane Camille in *Disasters and Tragic Events and How They Changed American History*, and a book chapter, "Empty Lots: Success or Failure of Sustainable Urbanization and Development Against Flooding?" in *A Global Survey of Sustainable Development in Areas of Social Vulnerability*.

MIRANDA (RANDI) UTZINGER

Miranda (Randi) Utzinger is a first-year student in paleoanthropology, and received her master's from Illinois State University. She is currently researching occipital bone growth in *Homo sapiens*, and she hopes to apply this research to the study of Neanderthal occipital bunning. She presented her master's research at the Central States Anthropological Society meetings and the Illinois State University Graduate Research Symposium.

ANNA J. WATERMAN

Anna has spent the 2011-2012 school year finishing her dissertation titled "Marked in Life and Death: Identifying Biological Markers of Social Differentiation in Late Prehistoric Portugal" and after eight long years as a graduate student will graduate this May. She is looking forward to a summer spent reading fiction.

ALISSA WHITMORE

Alissa Whitmore is a 6th year Archaeology Grad Student. After returning from the field in the fall, she has been organizing her data, continuing

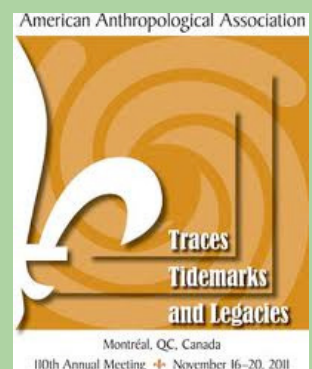
110TH ANNUAL MEETING OF AMERICAN ANTHROPOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

Montreal, QC, Canada
Nov. 16-20, 2011

The department was well-represented at the 2011 AAA meeting, "Traces, Tidemarks, and Legacies."

Faculty members taking part were Mike Chibnik, Laura Graham, Meena Khandelwal, Jonathan Larson, Ellen Lewin, Erica Prussing, Scott Schnell, and Emily Wentzell.

Graduate students presenting this year were Rachel Horner Brackett, Susie Donaldson, Nina Ortiz, and Kenda Stewart.



Center for Rebuilding Sustainable Communities after Disasters (CRSCAD)

RESEARCH • CONSULTING • TRAINING & WORKSHOP • OUTREACH & EDUCATION

An International Workshop on Innovation, Diversity and Sustainable Development in Areas of Social Vulnerability

November 17-18, 2011
 RYAN LOUNGE, 3RD FLOOR MCCORMICK BLDG.

An event of the Center for Rebuilding Sustainable Communities after Disasters
 University of Massachusetts Boston, USA &
 Chair in Multifacilitation
 University of São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil

Key Workshop topics
 University of Michigan, University of Massachusetts Boston, USA

We welcome proposals related to the following themes:

- Strategies for sustainable development in areas of social vulnerability
- Strategies for population engagement and the elimination of discrimination against people with disabilities
- Strategies for sustainable alternatives against flooding and other hazards
- Kinds of resources, due to climate change or lack of public policies
- Establishing indicators of social vulnerability and sustainable development

Learn more!
 researchers and professionals

Above: Jennifer Trivedi presented a paper at the Center for Rebuilding Sustainable Communities After Disasters' workshop on "Innovation, Diversity and Sustainable Development in Areas of Social Vulnerability" in November 2011.

MEREDITH WISMER

2011-2012 ANTHGRAD OFFICERS

The University of Iowa, 114 Macbride Hall, Iowa City, Iowa 52242

UPDATE UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

UNDERGRADUATES GRADUATING WITH ANTHROPOLOGY DEPARTMENT HONORS IN 2011



SPRING 2011

Abigail Jo Mason-Marshall
Megan E. Thies
Laura Jean Stulken

FALL 2011

Allison Sambo

CONGRATULATIONS TO 2011-2012 PHI BETA KAPPA INDUCTEES

Emily Adair
Shannon Burnett
Megan Dee
Elijah Fleming
Jerod Haldin
Elliot Higgins
Cole Konopka
Krystal Wisstrom

ELLIOT W. HIGGINS AWARDED 2012 HANCHER-FINKBINE UNDERGRADUATE MEDALLION

Elliot is a May 2012 graduate with majors in anthropology and political science. Among his campus leadership activities, he served as the President of the University of Iowa Student Government (UISG) for 2011-2012. UISG is the branch of student government representing UI undergraduates. He is also a former Student Liaison to the Iowa City City Council. He is from Ottumwa, Iowa.

This award was created to recognize leadership, learning, and loyalty. The tradition of awarding Hancher-Finkbine Medallions was established in 1964. They are named for the founder of the Finkbine Dinner, William O. Finkbine, and for Virgil M. Hancher, a student guest at the first dinner who served for 24 years as president of the University, and who, to an unusual degree, exemplified the three characteristics for which the awards are given. Seven medallions are awarded annually, to four outstanding students, one professor, one staff member and a graduate who has attained special distinction.

WILLIAM F. DAVIES II RECEIVES 2011-2012 DISTINGUISHED STUDENT LEADERSHIP CERTIFICATE

Davies, a senior from Highland Park, Ill., is an anthropology major with minors in economics and geography and a certificate in sustainability. He organized the inaugural UI Walk a Mile in Her Shoes event, raising funds and educating participants on preventing violence against women.



Left: UI President Sally
Mason presents 2012 Hancher-
Finkbine Undergraduate
Medallion to Elliot W.
Higgins.

Photo: UI Office of Student Life

DEGREE CONFERRALS

PH.D. DEGREES SPRING 2011

Brandyce Case Haub

Together We Stand Apart: Island and Mainland Puerto Rican Independentistas (Chairs: Dominguez/Chibnik)

Jason Thompson

Views to the Past: Faunal and Geophysical Analysis of the Open-Air Upper Paleolithic Site of Verberie
(Chair: Enloe)

Alexander Woods

The Effects of Lithic Raw Material Quality on Aurignacian Blade Production at Abri Cellier (Chair: Enloe)

PH.D. DEGREES SUMMER 2011

Scott D. Maddux

A Quantitative Assessment of Infraorbital Morphology in Homo: Testing for Character Independence and Evolutionary Significance in the Human Midface (Chair: Franciscus)

Jerry L. Weaver

Dancing the Habanera Beats (In Country Music): Empire Rollover and Postcolonial Creolizations in St. Lucia
(Chair: Graham)

PH.D. DEGREES FALL 2011

Rachel Horner Brackett

Savoring Ideology: An Ethnography of Production and Consumption in Slow Food's Italy (Chair: Prussing)

PH.D. DEGREES SPRING 2012

Kenda Stewart

In or Out of Bounds?: The Cultural and Political Implications of Palestinian Women's Soccer in Israel
(Chairs: Dominguez/Chibnik)

Anna Waterman

Marked in Life and Death: Identifying Biological Markers of Social Differentiation in Late Prehistoric Portugal
(Chairs: Lillios/Franciscus)

DEGREE CONFERRALS

M.A DEGREES SPRING 2011

Theodore Marks

Off-Site Archaeology in the Central Namib: Investigating human responses to arid environments during the Middle Stone Age 120-40 kya
(Chair: Enloe)

Shelby Putt

The Silent Toolmakers: A Pilot Experiment into the Relationship Between the Acheulian and Spoken
Language (Chairs: Ciochon/Franciscus)

M.A. DEGREES SPRING 2012

Rachel Tanquist

The Collaborative and Cooperative Violence of Mixed Martial Arts
(Chairs: Wentzell/Lewin)



THANK YOU TO OUR
ADMINISTRATIVE
SUPPORT STAFF MEMBERS!

Beverly Poduska and Shari Knight expertly juggle the multiple demands of a busy department and do so with grace, flexibility, and good humor. Their hard work and dedication is deeply appreciated by faculty and students alike.

THE ANTHROOBSERVER

University of Iowa Department of Anthropology Newsletter 2011-2012

Note from the Editor:

My thanks to everyone in the UI Anthropology Department who has contributed to producing this edition of The AnthroObserver.

Special thanks go to Mike Chibnik, Brandi Muller, Tomomi Naka, and Misha Quill for writing extended features. Also to Kéelin Baine, Cindee Calton, Mike Chibnik, Susie Donaldson, Jim Enloe, Jenna Grant, Drew Kitchen, Katina Lillios, Tomomi Naka, Erica Prussing, Shelby Putt, Misha Quill, and Jennifer Trivedi for photo contributions, and to Matt Hill, Shari Knight, and Beverly Poduska for information-gathering assistance.

Thanks are due, as well, to newsletter faculty advisor Meena Khandelwal.

Of course, all errors and omissions are entirely my own.

Best to all of you,
Liz Newbury

AnthroObserver editor,
2011-2012

The University of Iowa College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Department of Anthropology

2010ASNA

Here is my gift of:

- ☐ \$2,500 (Patrons Circle) ☐ \$1,000 (Dean's Club) ☐ \$500 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100
- ☐ Other \$ _____ for:
- ☐ Anthropology Gift Fund (30-153-001)
- ☐ Other: _____



Credit card information:

Credit card number

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Expiration date

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Month Year

☐ American Express ☐ Discover

☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA

☐ Please send me information about contributing through Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT).

Signature

Name of spouse or domestic partner:

(Please print preferred title and name.)

This is my _____ spouse _____ domestic partner (spousal equivalent)

Please make your check payable to The University of Iowa Foundation.

Name and your preferred title (Mr., Mrs., Ms., Dr., no title, other)

Address

City, State, ZIP

Reminders

- Gifts to the UI Foundation, the channel preferred by The University of Iowa for private support, qualify as charitable contributions to an IRC Sec. 501(c)(3) organization for federal income, estate, and gift tax purposes.

- You can become a member of the **College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Dean's Club** with gift support of \$1,000 or more during the fiscal year July 1 - June 30 to the Department of Anthropology or any other area of the college. Gift support totaling \$2,500 or more will qualify you for membership in the **Patrons Circle of the Dean's Club**, designed to recognize the college's most generous benefactors.

Matching Gifts

- Your employer or your spouse's employer may multiply your contribution through a matching gift program. Please ask your human resources director for the appropriate form.
- ☐ My company's matching gift form is enclosed.

May We Help You?

- ☐ Please provide me with information about:
 - ☐ Including the UI in my will/trust
 - ☐ Naming the UI as a beneficiary of my retirement plan
- ☐ I have already included The University of Iowa in my estate plans.
- ☐ I want to contribute annually until further notice.

Help Us Stay in Touch

Your email address:

This is my ☐ home email ☐ business email



The University of Iowa Foundation
Levitt Center for University Advancement
P.O. Box 4550

To give a gift to the Department of Anthropology please click [here](#).