

THE ANTHROOBSERVER

University of Iowa Department of Anthropology Newsletter 2013/2014



James Enloe, DEO,
Department of Anthropology

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There have been a lot of accomplishments and honors in our community during the past year. Most notably, Matt Hill was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure. We have also had the good fortune to be able to hire Ted Powers as a full time Anthropology Assistant Professor who will be anchoring development of a Global Health major in the coming years. Ted, his wife Kat and their daughter Emma will be joining us in the fall, after several years in South Africa. Ted will be teaching African Peoples and Cultures and Economic Anthropology next semester.

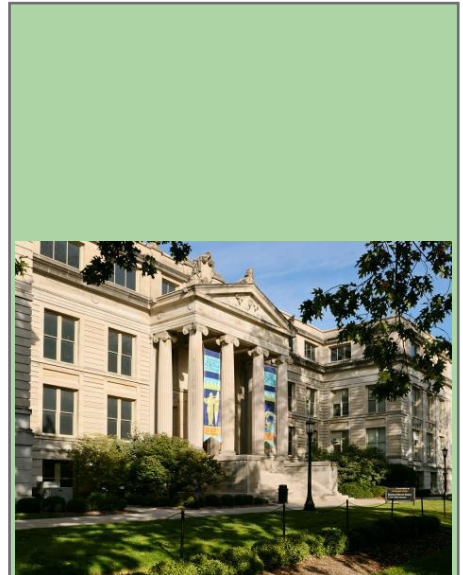
From a total of 210 Anthropology majors, a total of 51 undergraduate degrees in Anthropology were awarded this year, of which 43 are BA degrees and 8 are BS degrees. We are particularly proud of the accomplishments and recognition of our undergraduate students. Catherine Babikian, Lily Doershuk, Maggie Johnson and Katherine Strickland distinguished themselves with appointment to Phi Beta Kappa. Iowa Center for Research by Undergraduates (ICRU) scholars Natalie O'Shea, Luke Stroth and Alyson Wilkins presented their research in posters at the Fall Undergraduate Research Fair. Delaney Cooley, Katherine Strickland and Luke Stroth presented their research in posters at the Spring Undergraduate Research Fair. In an unprecedented development, students in Shelby Putt's Experimental Archaeology class, Chloe Daniel, Emma Dellopoulos, Christina Moscatel, Seraphina Carey and Rylee Kerper, also presented posters of their research in that class.

Our 36 graduate students have been very active and productive this year. It has been an exceptionally good year for internal and external grants. Two students were awarded very competitive National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grants: Teddy Marks for his research on stone tool raw material and mobility in the Middle and Later Stone Age in Namibia, and Christina Nicholas for her research on nasal traits and the anterior dentition in *Homo*. Christina was also awarded a Ballard-Seashore Fellowships for dissertation writing fellowship for next year. Toby Avalos received a T. Anne Cleary International Dissertation Research Fellowship for 2014-2015 for his research on fossil and living ape teeth at museums in France, Belgium and Germany. Elizabeth Newbury, Shelby Putt, Miranda Utzinger and Meredith Wismer-Lanoe were awarded Graduate College Summer Fellowships. Paul Capobianco was awarded a Stanley Graduate Award for International Research on Africans living in Japan.

NEWS FROM THE CHAIR

Several graduate students have achieved significant milestones in their academic careers. Brandi Muller was awarded her MA degree in Summer 2013; Marlis Muschal and Sarah Raine presented their MA papers at the end of the Spring 2014 semester. Three graduate students were awarded their PhDs. Cindee Calton defended her dissertation in Fall 2013; Brandi Janssen and Jonathan Thomas defended their dissertations in Spring 2014. Cindee Calton accepted a position at the Minnesota Museum of Science. Brandi Janssen will begin a position as a Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of Iowa's School of Public Health in Fall 2014. Susie Donaldson has taken a position as an Assistant Professor at the University of West Virginia. We will miss them all and wish them continued success in their future endeavors. Recent graduates have also made progress in their academic careers. Hannah Marsh began as Adjunct Assistant Professor at the University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg, Nina Ortiz began as a two-year Visiting Assistant Professor at the University of Minnesota at Morris. Rachel Horner Brackett (Fall 2011 PhD), who has been teaching as a Visiting Assistant Professor at Iowa, has begun a tenure-track job at Blackhawk College in Moline. Nathan Holton has begun a tenure-track Assistant Professor position in the University of Iowa Department of Orthodontics. Lavanya Murali Proctor has accepted a tenure-track position at Lawrence University in Wisconsin. Her spouse Daniel Proctor (also a graduate of our department) has accepted a half-time position in biological anthropology in the same institution. We congratulate them heartily.

The faculty was also productive this year, particularly in major publications and in successful research grant proposals. Sonia Ryang was awarded an NSF Senior Research Grant for her work under the title "North Korea: Anthropological Study of Totalitarianism." Margaret Beck and Jim Enloe each were Principal Investigators of their students' NSF Dissertation grants. Our members of faculty, as well as undergraduate and graduate students, were very active in presenting in local, regional, national and international conferences and congresses. There were, of course, substantial numbers of publications in peer reviewed scholarly journals and chapters in edited volumes. Emily Wentzell published *Maturing Masculinities: Aging, Chronic Illness, and Viagra in Mexico* at Duke University Press. Sonia Ryang has continued Director of Academic Programs at International Programs. Our faculty has received considerable recognition at the national and international scale. Mike Chibnik continues as editor-in-chief for *American Anthropologist*, the flagship journal of the largest anthropological association in the world. Ellen Lewin became President of the Association for Feminist Anthropology in 2013.



Above: Macbride Hall, home of the Anthropology Department and the Museum of Natural History.



Above: Professor Margaret Beck delivers a lecture.

Photos courtesy of the University of Iowa

NEWS FROM THE CHAIR

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. Meena Khandelwal is the Director of the South Asian Studies Program. Russ Ciochon is the coordinator of the Museum Studies Program, which currently has 73 undergraduates enrolled. Although it includes far ranging interests and input from faculty, staff and students across the university, the Museum Studies Program 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 John Doershuk, Steve Lensink, and Melody Pope.

As always, 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

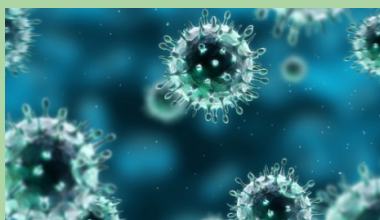
Photo: UI College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

FOCUS ON FIELDWORK



Above: Cuernavaca, located in the center of Mexico. Over the course of Professor Wentzell's research Cuernavaca became Mexico's third most dangerous city.

Below: HPV is often called the "common cold" of the genitalia.



EARLY FINDINGS ON THE SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES OF SEXUAL HEALTH RESEARCH PARTICIPATION IN MEXICO

Contributed by Emily Wentzell

Since 2010 I have been spending my summers in Cuernavaca, Mexico, doing fieldwork investigating the social consequences of Mexican spouses' involvement with sexual health research. My study site is the Mexican arm of the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) in Men study (the "HIM" study), a multi-national, observational, longitudinal medical research study tracing the "natural history" of HPV occurrence in men. Men in this study give blood and anogenital skin and urine samples, as well as complete behavioral and health questionnaires, twice a year for five years. During that time, many men, including those without any physical symptoms, receive positive HPV diagnoses.

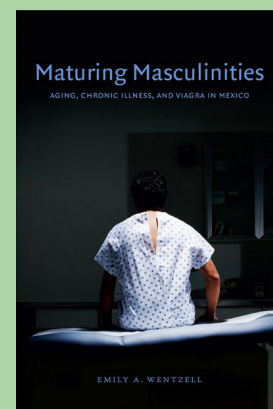
HPV is the world's most common sexually-transmitted infection, so frequent and generally harmless that it is often called the "common cold" of the genitalia. However, some HPV types can cause genital warts or cancers, including cervical cancer, which is a major cause of morbidity and mortality for Mexican women. The usually asymptomatic HPV virus can be cleared by the body quickly, persist for years, or swing between undetectability and detectability in the HIM study's advanced DNA testing methods. I have been investigating the ways that married, heterosexual HIM study participants and their wives incorporated men's study experiences and diagnoses into their relationships outside the clinic. This research reveals that spouses incorporate their study experiences into their responses to two key changes occurring in their social worlds: critique of "traditional" Mexican masculinities, and the arrival of narcoviolence to once-peaceful Cuernavaca.

"Machismo," a reflexive tendency to emotionally-closed womanizing, has been naturalized in Mexican discourse about gender since the 1950s. In the last several decades, however, amid the recent idealization of companionate marriage and broader public sphere roles for women, machismo has been heavily critiqued. Many study participants

FOCUS ON FIELDWORK

described themselves as explicitly “anti-macho,” and used HIM study experiences to perform companionate closeness with wives, emotionally involved parenting, and self-care that they believed belied machismo. For example, many male participants enrolled in the study at their wives’ suggestions, viewing testing as a way to care for one’s family by curbing viral transmission and ensuring parental health. Couples frequently discussed test results, or even attended appointments together to share the experience. Rather than interpreting HPV positivity as a marital problem, many participants framed the experience as fostering marital closeness and trust as couples supported each other through this potentially stigmatizing or health-threatening experience. Finally, participants frequently said that Mexican culture needed to modernize, especially in terms of gender norms and gendered health practice; many said that they believed study participation helped them to model a “culture of prevention” both to their children and to society as a whole.

Over the course of this research, once-safe Cuernavaca became Mexico’s third most dangerous city. Many study participants experienced robbery, kidnapping, and fear related to the lawlessness spurred by rising narcoviolence. As spouses felt less able to protect their families, HIM study participation took on new meanings. Getting sexual health testing and providing sexual education to children became key ways that parents could enact care and protection. In part as a response to this instability, some participants converted to evangelical Christianity. The anti-macho self-care that the HIM study enabled became one way for those participants to perform the gender and health practices supported by their churches. Overall, while medical research is ostensibly focused on individual bodies in clinical settings, this research shows that spouses collaboratively incorporated men’s HIM study participation into context-dependent, daily life attempts to be “good” people, parents, and partners.



Professor Emily Wentzell’s book, *Maturing Masculinities: Aging, Chronic Illness and Viagra in Mexico*, came out last summer from Duke University Press.

Below: Professor Wentzell in her lab coat.



FOCUS ON TEACHING

ANTHROPOLOGY STUDENTS EXPERIENCE ARCHAEOLOGY THROUGH HANDS-ON COURSE

Contributed by Shelby Putt

When I think back to my undergraduate education, what I remember most were the rare events when I learned through hands-on activities. So many university courses nowadays are exam-based and involve a professor talking at a large room of blank, listless faces, illuminated by the glow of their smartphone screens. This year I had the unique opportunity to create and teach my own courses, and I decided to take a risk and step outside the traditional course format to create a different kind of course, one that is hands-on, immerses the student in primary scientific literature, and provides the opportunity to actually conduct an experiment of one's own, rather than disconnectedly read about someone else's research in a textbook. The result was a course on experimental archaeology, which has demonstrated to me that provided the right encouragement, students recognize the importance of carrying out scientific research, and as a result, some of these students have exceeded my expectations by communicating their results to a wider scientific community.

Students conducted multiple hypothesis-driven experiments both inside and outside the classroom. Through the class experiments I designed for them, they learned about several important anthropological questions, such as how humans can impact an archaeological site and how the first cave paintings were created. Many of my students reported how much they enjoyed and learned from these experiments. For example, one student wrote in a mid-semester survey, "I like the activities we have done. They're fun and I feel like it gives you a different perspective when you read articles now." Additionally, with some guidance, they also designed and carried out their own research projects throughout the semester. There was a wide range of topics, from butchery efficiency of Early Stone Age replicative cores to metal preservation in varying underwater environments. Most of the students had never participated in research prior to this class, and while they found this aspect of the class challenging, they greatly enjoyed learning research skills.

An unexpected but pleasant result of the class has been the number of students who are sharing their results with the scientific community. Five students presented posters at the University of Iowa Spring Undergraduate



With the help of Mark Anderson from the OSA Putt's class tested the effect of weighted atlatls on the velocity of spears. Anthropology majors Ian Dunshee (above) and Lee Betker (below) throw themselves into the experiment.



Photos courtesy of Shelby Putt

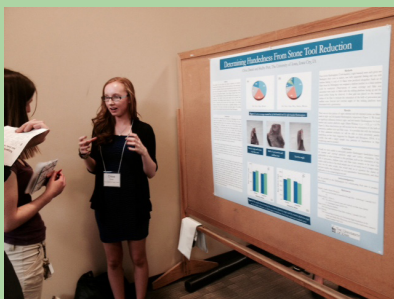
FOCUS ON TEACHING



Above: Through experimentation students learn about Upper Paleolithic methods for painting hand stencils.



Above: Rylee Kerper, Tina Moscatel, and Seraphina Carey presenting at SURF.



Above: Chloe Daniel explains her research at SURF.

Photos courtesy of Shelby Putt

Research Festival (SURF) in April. A couple students submitted abstracts to present at the AAA meetings, and several more plan to submit abstracts to the SAA conference and send manuscripts to be reviewed for publication in peer-reviewed student journals.

I have taken several lessons away from teaching this course. My students were not passive observers; they were actively engaged in the material. As a result, they felt like they were contributing to the field and were more enthusiastic about learning. One of my students wrote, "I have learned so much real world knowledge that no other class has told me." Unfortunately, many undergraduates majoring in the sciences graduate with little to no practical experience and therefore enter the "real world" with a limited perspective. My goal is to continue to design unique, hands-on courses throughout my career that challenge and inspire students to actively participate in science.



Above: Putt's class pose together to show off the products of their "hands-on" experimental research

FOCUS ON TEACHING

NEW UNDERGRADUATE TRACK, ANTHROPOLOGY FOR THE HEALTH PROFESSIONS, APPROVED FOR 2014

Contributed by Erica Prussing

For over two decades now, medical anthropology has continued to attract graduate and undergraduate students to UI's Department of Anthropology. As one of the fastest growing topical areas in the discipline today, medical anthropology offers opportunities for cutting-edge theoretical and methodological research, as well as for applied work in a wide variety of settings--from clinical and health services research to leadership and support roles within government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and community-based interest groups. 100% of the department's PhD students who graduated between 2002 and 2012 with a topical focus in medical anthropology, and who subsequently sought employment, have found jobs in tenure-track academic positions or applied research that directly use their doctoral training.

For much of the past decade, UI's medical anthropology faculty had primarily offered an upper-division Medical Anthropology course plus a rotating series of advanced topical courses for mixed undergraduate/graduate student audiences. Ellen Lewin also regularly contributed a graduate seminar in Feminist Medical Anthropology. Hires of new Anthropology faculty such as Emily Wentzell, Elana Buch, and Drew Kitchen enabled Erica Prussing to begin teaching a graduate seminar in Medical Anthropology & Social Theory in 2010, to consolidate expanded course offerings into an emphasis area in medical anthropology for undergraduate majors in 2012, and to begin developing a lower-division introductory medical anthropology course for new and potential majors for 2014. While contributing new courses in the evolution of human infectious diseases, Drew Kitchen noticed that a formal track in Anthropology's major for students entering the health professions would effectively build upon this existing infrastructure.

Drew developed a preliminary plan with support and input from Russ Ciochon, and the remaining medical anthropology faculty strongly supported the proposal. Emily Wentzell and Elana Buch joined Drew, Erica, and Russ in developing a full proposal for the department. The proposal then went forward to the Educational Policy Committee in December 2013, and received full approval from the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences to launch in fall 2014.

By completing this undergraduate track as part of a Bachelor of Science degree in Anthropology, students entering the health professions will learn about anthropology's holistic understandings of how sociocultural and biological factors intersect to shape experiences of health, sickness and healing. This knowledge base will enable students to better understand cultural and biological variation in health and sickness, as well as to examine how and why particular therapeutic interventions may be more or less effective when translated into different cultural settings and disease ecologies.

Over the past several decades, health professionals have increasingly recognized needs for broader training in order to comprehend how biological and sociopolitical factors combine to variably promote or demote health

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Above: Undergraduate student, Katherine Strickland, explaining her health-focused research poster at SURF.



Above: Professor Robert Franciscus (back row, first on left) and Toby Avalos (back row, fifth on left) played an important role in the formation and teaching of a new year-long course that was offered through several departments this year called *Origins of Life in the Universe*. This was an interdisciplinary effort involving anthropologists, astronomers, physicists, biologists, geologists, and chemists.

Photos courtesy of Shelby Putt

for both individuals and populations. In medicine, for example, in 2015 the medical college admissions test (MCAT) will begin including a new section on “Psychological, Social, and Biological Foundations of Behavior.” A second new section, “Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills,” will also ask students to analyze excerpts from readings in the social science and humanities. UI undergraduate students with interests not only in medicine but also in pharmacy, physical therapy, dentistry, chiropractic, occupational therapy, optometry, physician assistant, and related fields stand to benefit from anthropological approaches to understanding human health and well-being—not only as they apply to graduate and professional schools, but also in their future experiences as clinicians working with culturally diverse patients and communities.

The track in Anthropology for the Health Professions includes a range of courses taught by both sociocultural and biological anthropology faculty. Faculty members involved in developing this new opportunity hope to help improve the knowledge and skills of future health professionals, while also attracting potential new majors to our department in ways that will benefit all Anthropology faculty, graduate, and undergraduate students. Anthropology for the Health Professions joins other significant opportunities for specialization that the department has developed for our undergraduate majors, including emphasis areas in Gender & Culture, Cultural Heritage & Resource Management, Environmental Anthropology, and Medical Anthropology.

More information about this new track (including sample schedules for majoring in Anthropology developed for pre-medical and pre-physical therapy students), as well as about existing emphasis areas for Anthropology majors, is available at: <http://clas.uiowa.edu/anthropology/undergraduate-program/optional-undergraduate-specializations>

NEW COURSE OFFERINGS

The department added a number of courses over the past year. Some new courses taught in 2013 and 2014 include: Anthropology of Caregiving & Health (113:152), Infectious Disease & Human Evolution (213:153), *Origins of Life in the Universe* (Part 2) (113:041), *Midwestern Archaeology* (113:195), *Culture & Healing for Future Health Professionals* (113:091), *American Cultures* (113:128), and *Anthropology & Human Rights* (113:117). In the Fall of 2014 the department is pleased to offer a new graduate seminar entitled *Food, Culture, and Social Theory*.

FOCUS ON TEACHING

THE UI DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY 2013-2014 COLLOQUIUM SERIES

Dr. Melody Pope (Iowa Office of the State Archaeologist): “Buried Site Challenge: Defining a Middle Archaic Community”

November 8, 2013

Dr. Marina Zaliznaya (University of Iowa): “Petty Corruption and Bureaucratic Fragmentation in Post-Transitional Ukraine”

December 13, 2013

Dr. Liv Nilsson-Stutz (Emory University): “A Taphonomy of Ritual Practice. Archaeoethnology and its potential to shed light on mortuary ritual in the archaeological record”

January 23, 2014

Dr. George Perry (Penn State): “Conservation and Extinction Genomics of Extant and Giant Subfossil Malagasy Lemurs”

February 14, 2014

Dr. Mark Schuller (Northern Illinois University): “pa Manyen Fanm Nan Kansa: Intersectionality, Structural Violence, and Vulnerability Before and After the Earthquake”

February 28, 2014

Dr. Tim Weaver (UC Davis): “Studying the origins of modern human skeletal form in the genomics era” May 9, 2014

FOCUS ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES



Above: left to right, Shamus Roder, Alyson Wilkins, Madison Adams, Delaney Cooley, Jennifer Roder, Noah Johnson, Bridget Trankina, Samantha Skaar, Elizabeth Lowe, and Ryan Knott.



Above: Luke Stroth, Alyson Wilkins, Tyler Buck, and Elizabeth Lowe setting up a total station.

Below: Rose McCarty and Tyler Buck use a prism mounted pole and total station.



WOODPECKER CAVE: REFLECTIONS FROM AN UNDERGRADUATE

Contributed by Alyson Wilkins

Of the many fascinating courses offered to undergraduates in anthropology, I decided to take the Woodpecker Cave field school to see if archaeology was the subfield I wanted to pursue further. I'm so glad I did. During the field school taught by Professor Jim Enloe I learned both practical skills for archaeological processes and general, handy life skills. Not only that, but I found adventure and friendships. As a group we learned how to use mapping equipment and dig as professionals, but we also encountered storms, flooding, insects, snakes and much more. We enjoyed it all.

At the field school we learned the use of the total station, as well as new mapping technologies and innovations in geographic information systems (GIS). The model of the total station that we used in the mapping process included the Sokkia SET3-30R, with data collectors for each one of the two stations used, and prisms mounted on movable poles. Using the equipment, we were able to map quite a lot of the stream valleys, including the surrounding slopes and hills along with plateau on the other side of the hiking path. Mapping this area was one of the first parts covered in the field school. However, we also mapped the excavation site as well.

Mapping with a total station is rather simple process once one passes the set-up stage and creates reference points. The first major step when using total stations is to carefully level and center the station over a specific point, which was set up using the newly created datum point. The stand on which the station is set has to be centered and leveled meticulously using a plumb-bob and a lot of patience. An immense amount of tilting, leveling and hiking goes into setting up reference points.

Shooting the various points using this method is a seemingly simple process that can go strange very quickly. For an accurate and precise shot to be made the lens of the total station had to be aimed at the center of the prism mounted on a pole. These poles were adjustable but have to be set to a specific height so the data didn't change from day to day shooting of the points. The prism also had to stay level for the entire time the station was shooting the point. This is much harder than I can explain, there was an endless trail of humor about trying to keep these poles level. The strategy behind shooting these

FOCUS ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

points was to work from the station out in a set path. As the distance measured got further and further away, coordinating the actions of the total station and the prism got much more important. This coordination involved a lot of yelling and hand gestures, but it all worked out well in the end.

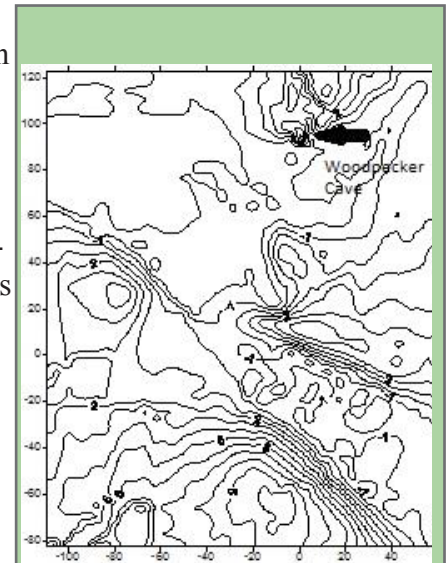
Towards the end of the field school this topographic mapping got interrupted by rising flood waters and heavy thunderstorms. These were not the only hazards we encountered; we also ran into mud on the hills and a variety of insects that really bug all archaeologists. By this time we managed to shoot 4,030 points covering an area over ten times larger than the previous year. Using these points a topographic map of the area could be made in order to better understand all data gathered over the course of the school.

Along with our adventures in mapping the surrounding area of the site we also mapped the excavation area as well using a combination of the previous total station knowledge and a working knowledge of EDMwin, an archaeological mapping program. It was like shooting the points before in miniature and in more detail. Using this we shot artifacts found in context on whatever layer we were working on at that time. Along with this knowledge we gained insight to the meticulous digging techniques used by archaeologists.

Using hand trowels, buckets, and hand broom we dug layer and layer into the dirt of our site. Each layer that we dug through was ten centimeters in depth vertically. We gathered up all the loose soil from the layer we were working on so we could screen it. The screen was used to catch any fragments of artifacts that we did not find through digging.

Over the course of the excavation we found many different objects lying buried beneath the earth. Unlike the group before us we were digging through the actual site itself. We found artifacts ranging from glass to shell to Native American stone projectile points. All these and more marked the busy past and present of the many people that have lived in or around the area throughout time.

As our digging progressed steadily we found more and more that could tell us a wide variety of things about the site. Our group bonded as we put our new found skills to use. Along this path we were hampered by many things, including creepy crawly insects and snakes. As storms came crashing overhead, we realized just how effective rock shelters truly were as protection from the elements. As it rained more and more across the state that summer, the river and reservoir nearby got steadily fuller and fuller.



Topographic map of the area using all points from both years. Contour interval is 1 m. Map taken from 2013 Woodpecker Cave report.



Above: students at work on the excavation site.

Below: the rock shelter of the excavation site flooded by the end of the week



FOCUS ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES



Above: remains from a hearth

Below: Water rising in the excavation site.



Below: Luke Stroth doing further analysis on fire cracked rocks



Photos courtesy of Alyson Wilkins

With water coming quickly upon us we found something unexpected: a concentration of rocks, along with charcoal and ash. It turned out to be a hearth. Working fast we recorded the location of the hearth rocks and bagged and tagged them all separately in a true display of teamwork. All the fire-cracked rocks got a number and a bag along with various animal bones and a nearby point. Working under pressure made us work as quickly as we could while trying to keep the data as accurate as possible. After we pulled up the hearth we had to put all the dirt back into the area we had just dug. The pressure was on us as we frantically dug, filled, and emptied the buckets to put back all the dirt that we dug and screened.

After the excitement from the flooding, digging, and mapping, we finally hit the real analysis section of this field school. As a group we managed to clean all of the material that we gathered during the course of the excavation. We washed all of the material using water basins and toothbrushes.

Then we laid it out to dry on trays with their labels and the other material from the same bag. We had a riot of a time learning how to label all of the artifacts with site name, level, and year, using India ink and the pens that work best with that ink. Towards the end of that venture with ink-stained hands we had a competition going to see who could write the smallest but clearest. A few of us managed to write entire lines of information on teeth of animals and rocks the size of our thumbnails.

After the school had ended a few members of the group went on to work for Dr. Enloe and do studies on some of the material that we gathered. They are making maps and graphs that make our discoveries understandable and interesting to the public.

The Woodpecker Cave archaeological field school was an adventure like no other I've had before. I learned a massive amount about the processes involved in archaeological field work. As a group we encountered many obstacles; our site flooded and we found all variety of things that crawl and slither. However, we also became great friends and learned about all the other work that can be done in anthropology. I'm now prepared with the basic field and lab know-how it will take to pursue further adventures in archaeological studies.

UPDATE FACULTY

FULLTIME FACULTY

MARGARET BECK

Margaret Beck began serving as the Director of Undergraduate Studies in January 2014. She is continuing her research on ceramic collections from the Scott County Pueblo in western Kansas and Picuris Pueblo in New Mexico. She looks forward to conducting new studies of ceramic exchange (and local imitation of nonlocal ceramics) after a year's worth of training in mineralogy and petrology during 2013-2014. Her 2014 publications include "Kansas and the Post-Revolt Puebloan Diaspora: Ceramic Evidence from the Scott County Pueblo" with Sarah Trabert in *American Antiquity* and "Site and Artifact Preservation: Natural and Cultural Formation Processes" in the *Encyclopedia of Global Archaeology*. She really enjoyed collaborating with the UI Old Capitol Museum for the exhibit "Cultures in Clay: Puebloan Vessels at the University of Iowa," that was on display August 29-December 29, 2013.

ELANA BUCH

Elana continues her research on the ways morality and political economy intersect through caregiving in the United States. She is currently preparing a book manuscript based on her research on Chicago's paid home care industry. An article based on this research was recently published in the *American Ethnologist* and another has been accepted for publication in *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*. She also organized symposia and presented papers at the American Anthropological Association and Society for Cultural Anthropology. Elana has also begun preliminary research on a new project focused on the ways that caring for disabled and aging veteran's impacts people's relationships with one another and the state. With funding graciously provided by the department, undergraduate student Nathyn Prager is working with Elana to construct a media archive focused on coverage of veteran's issues and veteran's care in major newspapers over the last 30 years. Elana begins preliminary fieldwork with a variety of veteran's advocacy and care organizations in Los Angeles this summer and in Iowa City in the fall. Elana has enjoyed teaching courses on World Problems, ethnographic methods, caregiving, aging and personhood across the life course in the past year. She has been thrilled to build relationships to groups across campus and Iowa City through presentations for the Sigma Iota Alpha multicultural sorority, the Honors Program and the Iowa City Senior Center. This year, she served as a project evaluator for the UIMA Senior Living Communities program and continued to serve on the curriculum advisory board for the Aging Studies Program.



Professor Margaret Beck began serving as Director of Undergraduate Graduate Studies in January 2014



Professor Buch begins preliminary fieldwork with a variety of veteran's advocacy and care organizations in Los Angeles this summer and in Iowa City in the fall.

UPDATE FACULTY



Professor Russel Ciochon (pictured above) spent the summer in Sumatra on a National Geographic Society grant collecting Eocene mammals including the first evidence of early primates from this Southeast Asian island.

MICHAEL CHIBNIK

Mike Chibnik continues to enjoy being editor-in-chief of *American Anthropologist* (AA). Although 2014-15 will be Mike's last year of teaching, he will continue to edit AA until July 2016. He then plans to write a book about his experiences editing the flagship journal of the American Anthropological Association during a time in which the both the field of anthropology and publishing practices are changing rapidly. Last October Mike gave the annual Robert Hunt lecture in economic anthropology at Brandeis University. In March of this year he participated as an external reviewer of the new anthropology department at Purdue University (which contrasts with our department in interesting ways). He is looking forward to a trip in May to Switzerland, where he has been invited to give a lecture and participate in a workshop at the University of Zurich.

RUSSELL L. CIOCHON

Russ remains busy with his continuing academic research in Southeast Asian *Homo erectus*, *Gigantopithecus*, and other Asian fossil primates. Russ, along with Gregg Gunnell (Director of Fossil Primates, Duke Lemur Center), will be conducting fieldwork this summer in Sumatra and Kalimantan (Borneo) focused on finding the first record of fossil primates in Island Southeast Asia. They are conducting this research under a grant from the National Geographic Society as well as private funding from the Gordon Getty Foundation. Russ' field work is only part of his hectic international travel. Russ started 2014 in Siem Reap, Cambodia where he presented a paper titled "Early Hominin Endemism in Island Southeast Asia" at the Indo-Pacific Prehistory Association Congress. He was invited by the Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology & Paleoanthropology, Chinese Academy of Sciences (IVPP, CAS) to work on and discuss the scientific issues related to *Gigantopithecus* faunas and "the mystery ape of Pleistocene China" with Professor Jin Chang-zhu in February. Russ recently returned from presenting his research on the site of Zhoukoudian at the Peking Man Symposium at Stony Brook University organized by the Confucius Institute and led by renowned paleoanthropologists Richard Leakey, of Stony Brook, and Liu Wu, of the Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Paleoanthropology. Russ was published this past year in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*, *Encyclopedia of Global Archaeology*, and *The Cambridge World Prehistory*, volume 1. Russ balances his research with teaching and administrative duties. He continues to serve as Director of CLAS' Museum Studies Certificate Program and is advisor to all registered undergraduate participants. He also has taken on a new role as Coordinator of Distance Education for the Department.

UPDATE FACULTY

JIM ENLOE

Jim Enloe is in the first year of his second three-year 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 and elsewhere. In 2013, Jim coauthored five chapters in *Un Automne à Pincevent: le campement magdalénien du niveau IV20*, edited by Michèle Julien & Claudine Karlin, as the Mémoire LVII de la Société préhistorique française. This important site documents an Upper Paleolithic reindeer hunters' campsite at the end of the Pleistocene. Jim also continued research and publication on the Grotte du Bison at Arcy-sur-Cure, a late Neanderthal occupation in France, by publishing a chapter entitled "Neanderthal to Neanderthal evolution: Preliminary observations of faunal exploitation from Mousterian to Châtelperronian at Arcy-sur-Cure" in *Zooarchaeology and Modern Human Origins: Human hunting behavior during the Later Pleistocene*, edited by Jamie Clark and John Speth. Jim continues his Namibian research program in collaboration with Grant McCall of Tulane University and Ted Marks. Teddy received an NSF dissertation grant and traveled again to Namibia for analyses of their previous excavations' lithic materials. They presented two papers at the 79th annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, in Austin, Texas this April. Finally, Jim continued his work at the field school site of Woodpecker Cave at the Coralville Reservoir for the second year, working with ICRU and other undergraduate students on analyses through the winter. They also presented a paper at the Society for American Archaeology meetings in Austin. They will be returning to Woodpecker again this May.

ROBERT FRANCISCUS

Along with his former student (Scott Maddux, currently assistant professor in Pathology and Anatomical Sciences at U. Missouri, Columbia), Bob traveled to Novosibirsk, Siberia this past summer to visit the Silver Fox Farm. Overseen by researchers at the Institute for Cytology and Genetics (IC&G) at the Siberian Division of the Russian National Academy of Science, the Fox Farm is a long term (50 year) experimental study site that has produced tame, domesticated foxes from their wild counterparts in order to investigate the genetic and morphological underpinnings that likely occurred in the prehistoric process of dog domestication from wolf ancestors. This trip to the IC&G in Siberia laid the groundwork for a long-term collaborative study with Bob and Scott's Russian colleagues that will combine and compare morphological data from such canids, other mam-



Professor Enloe continued his work at Woodpecker Cave in Coralville reservoir for the second year.



Photo courtesy of Bob Franciscus

Professor Bob Franciscus (holding a tame fox) alongside Lyudmila Trut, principal researcher at the Fox Farm (Institute of Cytology and Genetics, Novosibirsk, Siberia) in July 2013.



Recent PhD recipient Scott Maddux (pictured on the right) collecting data on domesticated foxes in Novosibirsk, Siberia.

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Photo courtesy of Sue Cunningham

Above: Professor Laura Graham and Xavante leader-activist Hiparidi Top'tiro, at the Cico Vive conference.



Photo courtesy of Andrew Miller/Amazon Watch

Above: Ecologist Phillip Fearnside, Xavante leader-activist Hiparidi Top'tiro, and Laura Graham testing new technologies for environmental monitoring in indigenous areas at the Cico Vive conference.



Photo courtesy of Andrew Miller/Amazon Watch

mals, and fossil hominin remains, along with genomic data, to explore a model of “self-domestication” for the emergence of behaviorally modern *Homo sapiens*, that they hypothesize occurred through a mechanism of aggression-dampening and increased social tolerance sometime after 80,000 years ago.

Bob also co-authored two articles in 2013. The first (Franciscus, RG, Holliday, TW. “Crossroads of the Old World: Late hominin evolution in Western Asia”), was a chapter contribution published in *The Origins of Modern Humans: Biology Reconsidered*, FH Smith & JCM Ahern (eds.), John Wiley & Sons, a major update of this award winning volume first published in 1984. The second article (Holton, NE, Franciscus, RG, Ravosa, MJ, Southard, TE. Functional and morphological correlates of mandibular symphyseal form in a living human sample), first appeared online in 2013 in the *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*. Bob also gave a podium presentation at the 2013 annual meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists meeting in Knoxville, TN that focused on the ‘self-domestication’ hypothesis, and was also co-author for a poster presentation at these meetings given by Miranda Utzinger that focused on the developmental aspects of key cranial traits found in Neanderthals and some modern humans. Bob was also a co-author in 2013 along with three former students for a presented paper on human nasal function and climatic adaptation at an invited symposium on the vertebrate nose held at the International Congress of Vertebrate Morphologists, in Barcelona, Spain this past July. Finally, Bob was also a frequent guest in 2013 on Iowa Public Radio’s River to River program commenting on: Neanderthal co-existence with modern humans (airdate: 2/7/2013); the new 1.8 million year old Dmanisi skull and early *Homo* evolution (airdate: 10/21/2013); and the evolution of human cold weather tolerance (airdate: 12/2/2013).

LAURA GRAHAM

Laura Graham served as a member of the planning committee for the Chico Vive Conference held at American University April 4-6. The event brought together indigenous and traditional leaders and other environmental activists from Africa, Asia, Australia and the Americas to discuss the development of the global grassroots environmental movement in the 25 years since the death of Chico Mendes, a Brazilian rubber tapper murdered in 1988 for speaking out against the destruction of the Amazon. The film Professor Graham made with two South American indigenous filmmakers, *OWNERS OF THE WATER: CONFLICT AND COLLABORATION OVER RIVERS*, screened at the event’s film festival and con-

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tinues to screen at international festivals. Professor Graham continues to work in collaborative partnership with indigenous peoples. The chapter she authored with Venezuelan indigenous educational activist Flor Ángela Palmar Barroso, “Yaletüsü Saaschin Woumain (Glory to the Brave People)”: Flor Ángela Palmar’s Creative Strategies to Indigenize Education in Venezuela, will appear this spring in the volume, *Indian Subjects* Edited by Brenda J. Child and Brian Klopotek. Laurie and her co-author are delighted that SAR Press chose a photo of Flor with her daughter for the cover image. A significantly revised and updated version of the chapter she wrote with Brenda Farnell (UIUC), *Discourse Centered Methods*, is also appearing this spring in the *Handbook of Methods in Cultural Anthropology*, Second Edition, edited by Russell Bernard and Clarence Gravlee published by Rowman & Littlefield.

MATTHEW HILL

In the last year Matthew Hill continued his on-going research project focused on his 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. He looks forward to fieldwork this summer that will involve a number of Anthropology undergraduate and graduate students.

MEENA KHANDELWAL

Meena Khandelwal is pursuing three ongoing projects in transnational studies, migration and development. Her essay entitled “Dance On! Inter-collegiate Indian Dance Competitions as New Cultural Form” has been accepted for publication in *Cultural Dynamics* (forthcoming). It focuses on the largest such competition in the Midwest, which is hosted by UI’s own Indian Student Alliance. The second and ongoing book project examines US-based Indian diaspora organizations that support development projects in India. However, this year, this project has taken a back seat to a third project on environment and development in Rajasthan, India, that is multidisciplinary and collaborative. Meena team-taught a First Year Seminar “Cooking Up a Storm” with her collaborator H. S. Udaykumar (Mechanical Engineering, UI). This past year, they gave joint presentations for Mount Mercy University, UI’s Social Science Interdisciplinary Group, and for students at Virginia Tech University. Meena directed an Obermann Working Group this year that involved additional UI colleagues: Paul Greenough, Marc Linderman, Matt Hill and Jerry Anthony. The group has received a seed grant to visit India together in the coming year. From this research collaboration has emerged a new multidisciplinary, team taught Big Questions course that Meena will direct in Fall 2014. It is called *People and the Environment: Technology, Culture and Social Justice* and will be taught in TILE classroom. As Director of the South Asian Studies Program in AY 2013-14, Meena arranged visits by a dozen scholars, including four anthropologists.

DREW KITCHEN

With input from colleagues, Drew drafted the preliminary plan for the new undergraduate track, Anthropology for Health Professions. The full proposal, drafted by a coalition of faculty members in the department was approved this year and will begin in Fall 2014. Drew’s current research projects involve: 1) identifying the major historical events and determinants of Native American diversity, focusing on the original peopling event ~15 KYA and the post-Columbian population crash; 2) investigating the effect of human demographic history on the evolution of human pathogens and parasites, including the effect of agricultural lifestyles on the human microbiome; 3) understanding the molecular evolution and macro-evolutionary processes affect-

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ing pathogen genetic diversity; and 4) the application of evolutionary principles to infer the complex history of human cultural diversity, especially with regard to the construction of language phylogenies. Drew is a member of the Genetics Cluster, the Informatics program, and an Obermann Center working group investigating the interstices of social and biological understandings of human behavior.

ELLEN LEWIN

Ellen is making slow progress on her book on a predominantly Africa American LGBT coalition of Pentecostal churches. The book, tentatively titled *Filled With the Spirit*, is under contract with University of Chicago Press. This year Ellen became President-of the Association for Feminist Anthropology (AFA). After years of complaining about the lack of curriculum on American cultures, she taught a new course on the topic in Spring 2014.

KATINA LILLIOS

Katina Lillios, and members of the Bolores project team, continued their analyses of the site and the people who were buried there over 4000 years ago. An article written by members of the team - with Briana Horwath, a former undergraduate at UI, as lead author - was published in *HOMO: Journal of Comparative Human Biology*. Another article summarizing the results of all four seasons of excavations is forthcoming in *Trabajos de Prehistoria*. Over the past year, Katina gave papers at the Theoretical Archaeology Group meeting, the AAA, and the SAA. Katina was also an invited speaker for a conference at Brown University's Joukowsky Institute of Archaeology on 'The Archaeology of the Iberian Peninsula: the State of the Field.' In the spring of 2014, while on sabbatical, she traveled to Portugal and Spain to plan the next phases of the project, and gave a series of lectures on Bolores in Lisbon, Porto, Faro, Coimbra, and Seville. And, on the non-work front, Katina had a number of memorable experiences over the past year: she got to hear the Rolling Stones in Chicago, visited Istanbul to see her father's childhood home for the first time, watched Real Madrid play (but lose) to Barcelona in Bernabeu, and ran her first half-marathon in one of her favorite cities, Lisbon.

ERICA PRUSSING

In August Erica returned from a productive spring/summer fieldwork trip to New Zealand (Aotearoa). Working with Māori public health researchers there, she has now completed the first year of a three-year, comparative study that examines the global rise of public health research by and

Below: Professor Katina Lillios at the 'famous' engraved plaque roundabout at Valencina de la Concepción, Spain. Spring 2014



Photo courtesy of Katina Lillios

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Below: Matagi (traditional hunters) searching for bear as the snow melts in early May.



Photo courtesy of Scott Schnell

Below: Monument to the spirits of bears 'bestowed' upon the hunters by the yama no kami (mountain god)



Photo courtesy of Scott Schnell

for indigenous peoples. This project focuses on indigenous-controlled health research in the U.S. and Aotearoa, weaving a new focus on scientific knowledge production (and related literatures from science & technology studies) into Erica's existing specializations in medical anthropology, public health, and indigenous studies. She has been developing this new focus in recent/current publications about the cultural and political dimensions of health research, including one in *Transcultural Psychiatry* (June 2014) and a second in *Social Science & Medicine* (accepted/forthcoming). Closer to home, Erica has begun an interesting local collaborative project with Carolyn Hough at Augustana College, which examines the experiences of first-time parents as they return to work after childbirth. Two talented undergraduate majors in Anthropology have received ICRU fellowships to assist them with the project, this year and next. Erica also continues to work with numerous graduate students in Anthropology and across campus, and to serve as academic coordinator for the small but spirited American Indian & Native Studies Program within the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences. In collaboration with Laura Rigal (English/American Studies), she co-taught a well-received proseminar for faculty and graduate students in AINSP, American Studies, and related fields this spring: "Comparative Indigeneity, Globalism and American Studies." Erica also worked with a coalition of Anthropology faculty on developing a new undergraduate track in Anthropology's major, "Anthropology for the Health Professions," which will launch in fall 2014.

SONIA RYANG

Sonia Ryang has continued address graduate students' needs by serving as Director of Graduate Studies this year. Dr. Ryang was awarded a prestigious NSF Senior Research Grant for her work under the title "North Korea: Anthropological Study of Totalitarianism." She will undertake research on how culture and personality are developed and maintained in totalitarian contexts. Dr. Ryang explores this in the context of North Korea, one of the most reclusive totalitarian regimes in the world. Dr. Ryang's latest book, *Eating Korean in America: Gastronomic Ethnography of Authenticity* will be published by University of Hawaii Press in 2014.

SCOTT SCHNELL

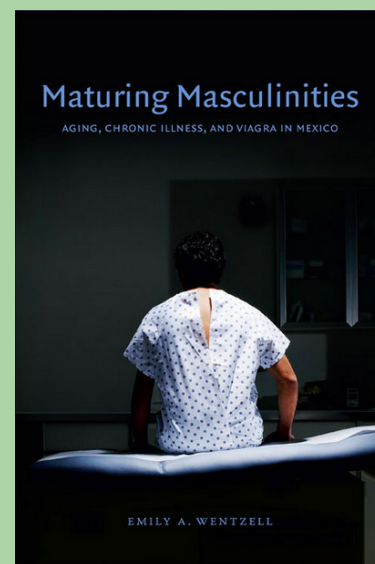
Scott Schnell continues his research on the matagi—traditional hunters in the mountainous beech forests of northeastern Japan. As in his other topics, this project incorporates a historical dimension and seeks to integrate idealist and materialist perspectives. Hunting holds a rather negative image among the general population, and is deplored by both Shinto and

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Buddhist traditions. But the matagi have legitimized their activities—both through a clever manipulation of religious and literary narratives that would otherwise discredit them, and by marketing themselves as protectors of crops and villagers from animal depredations. Their attitudes toward the environment are symbolically enacted by venerating the yama no kami, a mountain god that “bestows” game animals upon them—as long as the privilege is not abused. There is an interesting parallel economically, as the matagi have had to walk a fine line between demonstrating their effectiveness in controlling wild animal populations, but not to the extent of eliminating their own *raison d’être*. “Maintaining nature’s balance” thus serves not just as a popular euphemism but also an ingenious form of job security. Scott is interested in the popular rediscovery of matagi knowledge and skills as rural depopulation and decline of hunting facilitate the proliferation of certain animal populations to the detriment of other species.

EMILY WENTZELL

The highlight of Emily’s writing year was the publication of her book, *Maturing Masculinities: Aging, Chronic Illness and Viagra in Mexico* by Duke University Press. This book caps a project on the ways that erectile difficulty influences older, urban Mexican men’s understandings of masculinity and sexuality. She is now focusing on analyzing data from her of recently completed fieldwork on the social consequences of Mexican men’s participation in a multinational, longitudinal study of HPV transmission, as well as on mixed-methods collaboration on parents’ ideas regarding HPV vaccination with public health researchers in the US and Mexico. In 2013-4, she published data from these projects in the journals *Culture Health and Sexuality*, *Ethos and Medical Anthropology Quarterly* and the edited volumes *Globalized Fatherhood* (Berghahn Books) and *Transitions and Transformations: Cultural Perspectives on the Life Course* (Berghahn Books) and *Aging Men: Masculinities and Modern Medicine* (Routledge), with articles forthcoming later in 2014 in *Global Public Health and Sexualities*. On the teaching front, Emily was excited to have taught her first graduate class at Iowa in Fall 2013 (Anthropology of Science, Technology and Gender). This summer, she is looking forward to working on her research with three great undergraduate interns, and returning to the Belin Blank Institute to teach an intensive “Global and Cultural Studies” course to gifted middle schoolers.



Professor Emily Wentzell’s book, *Maturing Masculinities: Aging, Chronic Illness and Viagra in Mexico*, was published by Duke University Press.

UPDATE GRADUATE STUDENTS

MEREDITH ANDERSON

Meredith is an archaeology Ph.D. candidate, currently in the process of writing her dissertation. Her doctoral research is focused on trade economy and consumption patterns in rural Classic-period sites at Teotihuacan. This research in part examines the relationship between the phenomenal economic and political success of Teotihuacan during the first few hundreds of years A.D. and the control and maintenance of obsidian exchange and procurement. During the fall of 2013, Meredith finished collecting data in Mexico, and worked as an archaeology field lead at the archaic earthworks site, Poverty Point, in Louisiana. Here, she contracted a terrible case of poison ivy and a deeper appreciation for southern idiosyncrasies. Over the spring of 2014, she TAed for Andrew Kitchens' Human Origins class at UIowa. Meredith hopes to complete her dissertation by spring 2015, and, in the interim, will endeavor to generate a living wage by continuing her approximately eight years of Cultural Resource Management (CRM) experience. She still finds time for boxing and admiring other peoples' dogs.

TOBY AVALOS

Toby is currently completing his PhD. in Paleoanthropology here at the University of Iowa under the guidance Dr. R.L. Ciochon. Tony earned his B.A. in Anthropology from the University of Nevada, Reno in 2000, and more recently his M.A. in Anthropology from the New Mexico State University in 2011. His M.A. thesis addressed the primitive nature of the lower anterior dentition of the Early Pleistocene hominins from the Dmanisi Site, Georgia Republic, whose fossils represent the earliest evidence for hominins known outside of Africa, dating to 1.85 mya. At present, Toby's PhD. research is concerned with the transition from early Homo to the more modern Homo erectus form, primarily through dental analysis, and how this relates to the first hominin expansions eastward of the Levant region during the Latest Pliocene or Earliest Pleistocene. His other ongoing academic pursuits include post- Late Miocene hominoid evolution and systematics throughout Southern China and Peninsular Southeast Asia.

AMANDA BERNEMANN

Amanda is a first-year student in archaeology interested in Late Prehistoric diet and subsistence. She received her Bachelor of Science in Anthropology from Iowa State University in 2013. Her research interests include Oneota archaeology, zooarchaeology, and GIS.

CONGRATULATIONS

to Jill Scott. Jill was the recipient of the 2013-2014 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.

UPDATE GRADUATE STUDENTS

CINDEE CALTON

Cindee successfully defended her dissertation entitled, “Teaching Respect: Language, Identity, and Ideology in American Sign Language Classes in the United States.” Her research examines ideologies of ASL students and their teachers, and how these ideologies influence classroom experiences. Cindee conducted a multi-site dissertation research project at US universities about sign language in higher education. Cindee’s paper, “Sign-Gain: What We Learned From Sign Languages When we Stopped Having to Defend Them” was accepted to the edited volume, *The New Normal: Deaf-gain and the Future of Human Diversity*. Cindee accepted a position at the Science Museum of Minnesota. At the museum, Cindee helps coordinate technology classes and develops and teaches classes in technology, engineering, science, and math. Cindee has also recently become involved in applied research at the museum. She is putting her anthropology skills to work by participating in data collection for an evaluation of a recently built museum exhibit entitled “The Wonder Years.” Cindee is also as adjunct instructor at Black Hawk College, where she teaches introductory Cultural Anthropology and Physical Anthropology

PAUL CAPOBIANCO

Paul Capobianco is completing his first year in the Ph.D. program. His research focuses on how ethnicity, class, and profession impact the lived experiences of the Nigerian community in Japan. His research interests include diaspora communities, bioculture, higher education, and ethnic entrepreneurship. Paul received the Stanley Graduate Award for International Research and will be conducting pilot fieldwork in Japan this summer. This past year he has presented his research at the Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs and Discussions on Asia: A Midwest Graduate Conference. He also gave group a lecture at the Global Leadership Starts Here Workshop that was held at the University of Iowa this spring. This presentation focused on how American and Chinese students could avoid cultural misunderstandings with each other and promote better intercultural engagement. Paul will be presenting his latest research this summer in Tokyo.

SUSIE DONALDSON

Susie is a PhD candidate currently writing her dissertation on burley tobacco farm work and identity in a community in Northeast Tennessee. Her work focuses on a period of rapid change in tobacco production and marketing: 1990 – 2012. She examines the ways in which rural residents, particularly farmers and seasonal farmworkers, negotiate the materiality and



Photo courtesy of Shelby Putt and the Anth Grad facebook site

Above: Congratulations to Cindee Calton for successfully defending her dissertation entitled, “Teaching Respect: Language, Identity, and Ideology in American Sign Language Classes in the United States”

UPDATE GRADUATE STUDENTS



Above: Noah Johnson presenting a paper at the University of Illinois-Chicago's 3rd Annual Second City Anthropology Conference in Chicago, titled, "Representing Simultaneity in Polychannel Linguistic Events: A Multitrack Method for Transcription."

cultural meaning of work within this context. Susie was awarded a Ballard and Seashore Dissertation Year Fellowship to complete this dissertation during the 2013 – 2014 school year. Susie Donaldson has taken a position as an Assistant Professor at the University of West Virginia.

BRANDI JANSSEN

Brandi successfully defended her dissertation in Spring 2014. In Fall 2014 Brandi will begin a position as a Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of Iowa's School of Public Health. When not working on her dissertation, Brandi spent much of 2013-2014 teaching at Kirkwood Community College and working as Editorial Assistant for *American Anthropologist*.

NOAH JOHNSON

After completing his Master's Degree in May, Noah moved directly into preparing for his dissertation work by attending the National Science Foundation's Summer Institute for Research Design in Cultural Anthropology, which was held at the Duke Marine Laboratory in Beaufort, NC. Coming out of this rewarding experience, Noah has been working diligently to frame his proposed dissertation work with a non-profit organization in the United States that partners with public schools to use martial arts instruction as a prevention/intervention program with at-risk youth. At this year's AAA Annual Conference Noah presented the findings from his MA research, and forged connections with the new and exciting Anthropology of Tourism Interest Group, that have resulted in his paper on karate "tourism" in Okinawa being selected for inclusion in the panel supported by that Interest Group for next year's AAA Conference in Washington, D.C. In January, Noah was published in a special issue of *Student Anthropologist*, the peer-referred journal of the National Association of Student Anthropologists. He also presented this research, which dealt with transcription methodology in multi-participant linguistic events (and which came out of an assignment in the department's Graduate Seminar in Linguistic Anthropology), at the 3rd Annual Second City Anthropology Conference hosted this Spring by the University of Illinois-Chicago. With the coming of Summer, Noah is preparing for his preliminary trip to his proposed field site in the US Southwest, to meet with the the non-profit organization he plans to study for his dissertation.

FARAI MARAZI

Farai Marazi began the dissertation fieldwork component of his studies in early 2014. His current work involves the use of ethnographic methods to

UPDATE GRADUATE STUDENTS

investigate diabetes treatment for homeless people in Brooklyn, New York, that use mobile clinics. Farai has been conducting research about homelessness in New York City since the summer of 2009. During the summer of 2011, he was in NYC conducting pilot research for the proposed project on diabetes, which will be the subject of his dissertation fieldwork. 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. Throughout graduate school, Farai's 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.

NATALIE LUNA-RENEK

Natalie Luna-Renek is working towards her Ph.D. in sociocultural anthropology with an emphasis on the Anthropology of Religion, under the guidance of Dr. Sonia Ryang. Natalie received her B.A. in Anthropology from California State University, Fullerton, in 2010 and her M.A. in Sociocultural Anthropology again from California State University, Fullerton, in 2012. Her thesis research focused on the dream and spirit theories of California-based Hawaiians. Her dissertation research is on the dreams of Latina Catholic immigrants living in West Liberty, Iowa.

BRANDI MULLER

Brandi Muller is completing her third year in the program and, in addition to TAing for Anthropology and Contemporary World Problems, has been preparing her MA paper for publication and presented at the 2014 SfAA conference in Albuquerque. The paper she presented was titled: "Occupational Space and Eating Behaviors: Negotiating a Gentrified Food Desert." Her research interests are centered on American experiences of sociocultural factors of overweight and obesity.

MARLIS M. MUSCHAL

Marlis is an archaeology student with a research focus on Great Plains prehistory. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology and History from Marquette University, and she spent 2 field seasons working for the U.S. Forest Service in Wilmington, Illinois (Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie), and in Steamboat Springs, Colorado (Routt National Forest). Her academic interests, among many, include lithic studies, landscape use, and geomorphology.

Below: Marlis Muschal and Sarah Raine successfully passed their defense and earned Master's Degrees in anthropology.



Photo courtesy of Shelby Putt

UPDATE GRADUATE STUDENTS

ALEJANDRO MUZZIO

Alejandro is a PhD candidate specializing in Latin American Cultural Anthropology, advised by Dr. Michael Chibnik. He researches the effects of politics on development programs in emerging markets, with specific attention paid to the conditions of labor. Currently, he's collecting data on the viability and outcomes of tourism ventures and development programs in Garifuna communities on the north coast of Honduras. His masters thesis focused on immigrant labor in Iowa's agricultural sector. In his spare time he researches and implements equities investment strategies in his online brokerage account. Also, he buys and sells silver bullion, military relics, and used road bicycles. He's taught courses on culture and society, world problems, socio-linguistics, human impacts on the environment, and archeology.

LIZ NEWBURY

Liz is continuing data collection for her dissertation, working with biobank donors and professionals in Iowa and focusing on their expectations for community representation, with generous support from a 2014 Graduate College Summer Fellowship. A co-authored paper, "Public perspectives on biospecimen procurement: what biorepositories should consider," L'Heureux et al., was published in *Biopreservation and Biobanking* 11(3):137-143. In November 2013, she presented a paper, "My Blood, Our Research: Biobank Donors' Perspectives on Commercial Use of Biobank Resources and Research," at the 112th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association in Chicago. 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 is a PhD Candidate in Paleoanthropology, working with Dr. Robert Franciscus. Christina's research interests include human evolution, human osteology, dental anthropology, and craniofacial ontogeny. Her dissertation project investigates the relationship between dental and nasal development in genus *Homo*. In Summer 2013, Christina travelled to repositories across Europe to collect data on fossil specimens using a 3D laser scanner. Christina, who was recently awarded an NSF dissertation improvement grant, made a second trip into the field this winter in order to obtain additional fossil data, travelling to the Middle East and Africa. This data will be combined with data from clinical CT scans of extant humans to look at patterns of mid-facial ontogeny. In addition to her anthropological research,

Congratulations to Christina Nicholas (below). She received the Ballard and Seashore Dissertation Year Fellowship and a National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant.

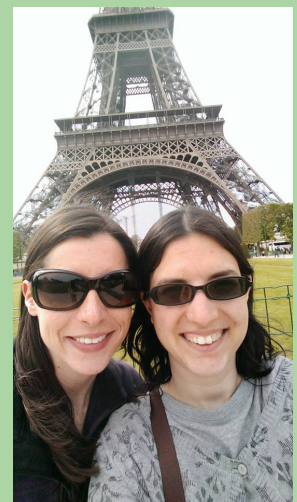


Photo courtesy of Jill Scott

Jill Scott and Christina Nicholas take a break from data collection to see some of the sights in Paris.

UPDATE GRADUATE STUDENTS

CONGRATULATIONS!

Teddy Marks was awarded a National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant.

Christina Nicholas was awarded both a National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant and the Ballard-Seashore Dissertation Year Fellowships for 2014-2015.

Toby Avalos received a T. Anne Cleary International Dissertation Research Fellowships for 2014-2015

Elizabeth Newbury, Shelby Putt, Miranda Utzinger and Meredith Wismer-Lanoe were awarded Graduate College Summer Fellowships.

Paul Capobianco was awarded a Stanley Graduate Award for International Research on Africans in Japan.

2013-2014

ANTHGRAD OFFICERS

Christina Nicholas	President
Marlis Muschal	VP
Randy Utzinger	Secretary
Eli Gonzalez	GSS Rep
Noah Johnson	COGS Rep

Christina is actively collaborating on a variety of research projects in the College of Dentistry, where she currently works as a Research Assistant. Her main dental research project is a clinical trial examining dental implant designs.

TONY POMALES

Tony is in the process of writing his dissertation on aging women sex workers, NGOs, and gendered agency in the context of San Jose, Costa Rica. He completed his undergraduate studies at the University of Notre Dame (IN) with a degree in Honors Anthropology. His research interests include women's NGOs and development politics, the politics of women's and men's reproduction, cultural constructions of gender and sexuality in Latin America, and theories of subjectivity, agency, and power. For the 2013 fall semester, Tony was a TA in the Department of Gender, Women's, and Sexuality Studies. In November 2013, Tony presented a poster at the annual meetings of American Anthropological Association entitled, "Treating Machismo: Gender Workshops for Men in Costa Rica." He also received an Honorable Mention in the 2014 Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship Competition.

SHELBY PUTT

Shelby is a fifth year student with a focus in paleoanthropology. Since last year, she has passed her prospectus and comprehensive exams and has been carrying out pilot research for her dissertation, which involves the neuroimaging technique, functional near infrared spectroscopy (fNIRS), to investigate whether the presence of language while learning to flintknapping leads to measurable differences in neural activation patterns. With the help of her colleagues at the Delta Center, she has been learning how to analyze these data with sophisticated software in preparation for a larger experiment, which she hopes to begin this summer. This has been a very successful year for Shelby because she received the Graduate College Summer Fellowship, published her first peer-reviewed article, which should appear in the spring issue of *Lithic Technology*, and she attended the AAA meetings this year in Chicago and delivered her first podium presentation. As a result, she has been invited to present a paper for a special session on evolutionary cognitive archaeology at the next AAA conference in Washington D.C. Shelby proposed and taught two of her own courses this year in the Department of Anthropology, The Evolution of Human Language and Cognition and Recreating the Past with Experimental Archaeology. She is particularly proud of her experimental archaeology students because six of them presented their research projects at the Spring Undergraduate Research Festival at the University of Iowa.

UPDATE GRADUATE STUDENTS

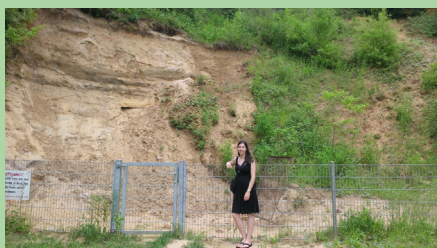
Below: Jill Scott laser scanning the original La Ferrassie 1 Neandertal cranium in Paris



Below: Jill in Mauer, Germany on a hike to see the site where the original Homo heidelbergensis (Mauer) mandible was discovered



Below: Jill in front of the site where the original Homo heidelbergensis (Mauer) mandible was discovered in Mauer, Germany.



Photos courtesy of Jill Scott

Shelby also recently received the Grant-in-Aid research fellowship from Sigma Xi, the Scientific Research Society.

MISHA QUILL

Misha is a PhD candidate, currently writing up her findings from her dissertation fieldwork on the role of international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) on the resolution of protracted refugee situations. Her fieldsite was 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 was 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 Spring 2014 she also assisted Meena Khandelwal and Matt Hill with development of a new, multidisciplinary "big questions" course called People and the Environment.

JILL SCOTT

Jill is a Ph.D. candidate in paleoanthropology whose research focuses on the evolution of craniofacial variation in the genus Homo. In spring 2013, Jill moved to State College, PA, where she has been busily writing and collecting dissertation data. In summer 2013, Jill traveled to 12 countries in Europe to collect the bulk of her dissertation data from fossil and recent Homo. While in Europe, Jill presented some of her preliminary dissertation findings at the I BioAnthropological Meeting at the University of Coimbra in Portugal, and she also delivered a presentation about her research at the Museu Nacional de Arqueologia in Lisbon. In fall 2013 Jill presented at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting in Chicago, IL, receiving an honorable mention for the Biological Anthropology Section Student Award. In spring 2014, Jill kicked off the Penn State Department of Anthropology Colloquium series with a talk entitled, "The Chinigma: Understanding Chin Prominence and Morphology in Homo." She also presented at the American Association of Physical Anthropologists (AAPA) Annual Meeting in Calgary, AB, Canada where she finished her term as the AAPA Student Liaison to the Executive Committee. During the past academic year, Jill was also honored to receive the Sandra H. Barkan Outstanding Graduate Student Mentor Award from the UI Graduate College. In May 2014, Jill is traveling to South Africa to participate in the Rising Star Workshop as part of a team analyzing and describing a large, recently discovered fossil hominin sample.

UPDATE GRADUATE STUDENTS

JONATHAN T. THOMAS

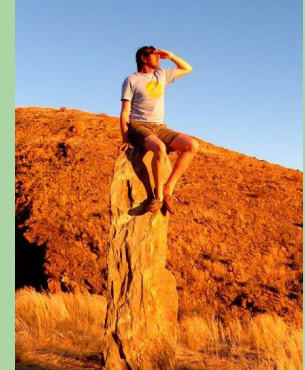
Jonathan completed his dissertation “Emerging Economies: Late Neolithic and Copper Age Beads and Pendants of the Portuguese Estremadura” and received his PhD from the Department of Anthropology in May of 2014. He continues to live in Iowa City, where he works as a medical anthropologist and health research scientist. Jonathan’s most recent publication, an interview with anthropologist Sidney Mintz, is set to appear in the next issue of *American Anthropologist*.

SARAH TRABERT

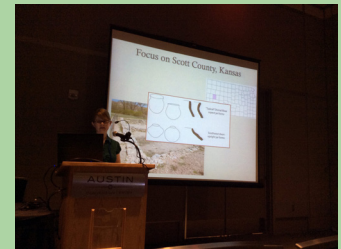
Sarah is in her sixth year, and with the assistance of funding from a number of sources, has finished her dissertation data collection. She will spend this coming summer and next year writing up the results for her dissertation and several manuscripts. Her dissertation focuses on the effects of colonialism on populations not directly under colonial rule by studying connections between Puebloan groups in the Southwest and Dismal River Aspect groups living on the High Plains during the Protohistoric period. Her summer plans include getting married at the end of May, traveling to Puerto Rico for a much needed vacation, and summer excavations in Kansas. Sarah anticipates joining the throng of recent (and not-so-recent) PhD graduates in the great job and post-doc hunt in the fall and spring.

JENNIFER TRIVEDI

Jennifer Trivedi is a sociocultural anthropology doctoral candidate working on her dissertation by examining long-term Hurricane Katrina recovery in Biloxi, Mississippi and continuing her research exploring a range of issues related to disasters, including their effects, preparedness, response, and recovery. She is a volunteer/intern with the Gender and Disaster Network (GDN). She completed an externship with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), working with other University of Iowa students to help design training for government hospital employees to understand and use their emergency operations plan (EOP) in the Republic of Mauritius. Jennifer presented her paper “Can Tourism Drive Long-Term Disaster Recovery?” at the SfAAs this spring in New Mexico, thanks in part to a University of Iowa Center for Global and Regional Environmental Research (CGRER) travel grant. Her commentary piece, “Inequality, Poverty and Disaster in America,” appeared in *Anthropology News* online in November 2013 and in the March/April 2014 print edition. She was interviewed about the piece and the issues it raised by WMUA 91.1 Amherst’s “The Mass Divide,” a radio series that examines economic inequality and its effects in the modern United States in March. If she’s not studying, writing about, or talking about disasters, she’s usually at either a poetry reading or a sporting event.



Congratulations to Jonathan Thomas (pictured above) for successfully defending his dissertation.



Sarah Trabert (pictured above) giving a talk entitled, “Social identity in protohistory: A case study from the high plains” at the 79th Annual Meeting for the Society for American Archaeology in Austin, TX .

Photos courtesy of Shelby Putt and the University of Iowa Anthro Facebook page

UPDATE GRADUATE STUDENTS

MIRANDA (RANDI) UTZINGER

Miranda (Randi) Utzinger is a PhD candidate in biological anthropology, with a primary interest in cranial growth and development in the genus *Homo*. She received her BA in Anthropology from Illinois Wesleyan University in 2008, and her MS in Archaeology (concentration: Bioarchaeology) from Illinois State University in 2010. She is currently researching the timing and patterning of occipital bun/hemibun development in Neandertals and extant *Homo sapiens*. She has presented her research at the 2010 Central States Anthropological Society meeting, the 2010 Illinois State University Graduate Research Symposium, and the 2013 and 2014 American Association of Physical Anthropologists meetings. While studying at the University of Iowa, Miranda has worked as a sole instructor in the Rhetoric department, a tutor in the University of Iowa Writing Center, and a teaching assistant for Human Origins and Prehistory. During the 2013-2014 academic year, she served as the secretary of AnthGrad, as well as the biological anthropology graduate student liaison for the Department of Anthropology Colloquium Committee. She has been awarded a Graduate College Summer Fellowship to support her research during the summer of 2014. She is also the recipient of a William S. Pollitzer Student Travel Award (2014), as well as two consecutive UI Department of Anthropology June Helm Travel Fellowships (2013 & 2014), UI Graduate Student Senate (GSS) Travel Funds Awards (2013 & 2014), and UI Executive Council of Graduate & Professional Students (ECGPS) Professional Development Grants (2013 & 2014).

MEREDITH WISMER

Meredith is an archaeology graduate student with a focus on zooarchaeology. Her dissertation research focuses on changes in faunal subsistence throughout the Archaic and Woodland periods of the northern tallgrass prairies in the midcontinental United States. In addition to working on her dissertation research, she is an instructor for Arizona Western College and works as an archaeological field technician. This year she joined the Media Relations Committee of the Society for American Archaeology. She presented some preliminary results of her dissertation research at the annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology this spring in Austin, Texas.

UPDATE UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

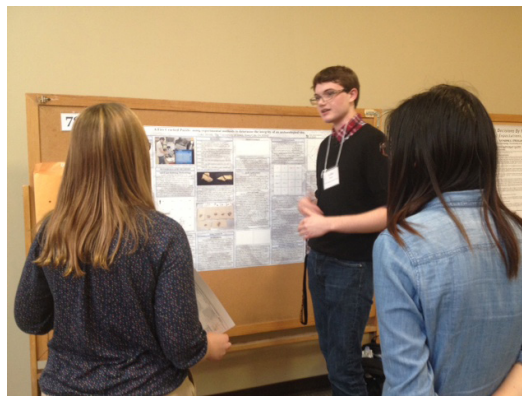
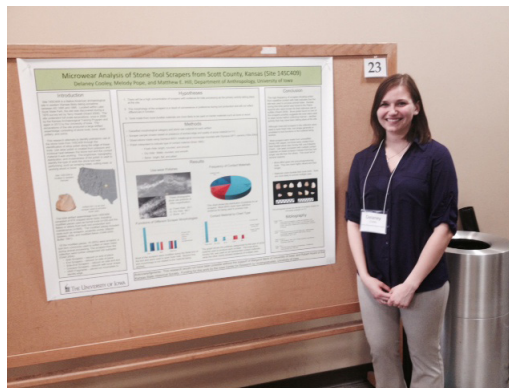
CONGRATULATIONS TO
THE 51 UNDERGRADU-
ATES GRADUATING WITH
DEGREES IN ANTHROPO-
LOGY IN SPRING 2014



CONGRATULATIONS TO
2013-2014 PHI BETA
KAPPA INDUCTEES

Catherine Babikian
Lily Doershuk
Maggie Johnson
Katherine Strickland

Iowa Center for Research by Undergraduates (ICRU) scholars Natalie O'Shea, Luke Stroth and Alyson Wilkins presented their research in posters at the Fall Undergraduate Research Fair. At the Spring Undergraduate Research Fair, Katherine Strickland (top picture below), Luke Stroth (middle picture below), and Delaney Cooley (bottom picture below) presented their research in posters.



Photos courtesy of Shelby Putt

DEGREE CONFERRALS

PH.D. DEGREES SUMMER 2013

Erica Begun-Veenstra

Detecting Ethnicity at Teotihuacan through Archaeology: The West Mexican Presence at Structure N1W5:19.

PH.D. DEGREES FALL 2013

Cindee Calton

Teaching Respect: Language, Identity, and Ideology in American Sign Language Classes in the United States.

PH.D. DEGREES SPRING 2014

Brandi Janssen

Growing Local Food: Direct Market Agriculture in Iowa.

Jonathan Thomas

Emerging Economies: Late Neolithic and Copper Age Beads and Pendants of the Portuguese Estremadura.

M.A DEGREES SUMMER 2013

Brandi Muller

Occupation and Eating in Downtown Des Moines: The Complexities of Self, Space, and Socioeconomic Status.

M.A. DEGREES SPRING 2014

Marlis Muschal

Over the Mountains and Across the Plains: An exploration of Cody Complex technological variation across environments.

Sarah Raine

Authority, Interpretation and the Tour Dongba: Constructing Authenticity in a Museum Encounter.

THANK YOU TO OUR
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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 2013-2014

Note from the Editor:

Thanks to everyone in the UI Anthropology Department who has contributed to producing this edition of The AnthroObserver!

Special thanks go to Shelby Putt, Erica Prussing, Emily Wentzell, and Alyson Wilkins for writing extended features, and to Jim Enloe for his annual contribution.

Thanks also to Jill Scott, Katina Lillios, Laurie Graham, Scott Schnell, and Bob Francisus for photo contributions.

Finally, big thanks to Shari Knight, Beverly Poduska, and the newsletter faculty advisor, Meena Khandelwal, for help with gathering information and editing.

As usual, all errors and omissions are entirely my own.

Best to you all,
Eleanor King

AnthroObserver editor,
2013-2014

The University of Iowa College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Department of Anthropology 2010A5NA

Here is my gift of:

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